The Nation

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The Week

Mr. Bryce was once heard to say that Washington is, from June to September, the worst capital in the world for residence and public business. He could scarcely have forgotten Madrid, with its proverbial "tres meses de infierno"; but there at least an occasional breeze comes from the Guadárramas, whereas Washington is without either near-by hills or bodies of cooling water. One might offer Calcutta as a rival, but the capital of India has now been transferred to Delhi. A despairing Congressman proposes that a "summer capital" be built. Apparently resigning himself to the necessity of summer sessions indefinitely, he suggests that Congress and the Executive be provided with temporary quarters somewhere in the Blue Ridge, three or four hours away. He would have the needful buildings erected, and the seat of government transferred to them at least during July and August. But one almost suspects that such a counsel could come only from a man whose head had been affected by the heat. There is no likelihood of any such plan being adopted. Relief, if any is to be had, must be found in other ways.

From October till the middle of May the Washington climate is as fine as could be wished. If it is true that Congress is to be condemned to nine months of forced labor at Washington every year, it is obvious that the nine months ought to be the ones in which the labor can best be done. But the case is, no doubt, overdrawn. The House possesses legislative machinery which can grind with celerity. In the Senate the wheels often turn aimlessly for weary weeks. It has absolutely no rule for putting an end to interminable and perhaps purely dilatory debate. It is desirable to retain the deliberative quality of the Senate and even, on just occasion, the power of obstruction. But there is no sound reason why this should be pushed to such absurd and intolerable lengths as are now permitted. The suggestion has been made of a rule that a two-thirds vote of the Senate may end discussion and bring the matter to a vote. This seems reasonable. Possibly, if the Senate is held at Washington long enough, and the weather is hot enough, it may be induced to consider a cure for its time-wasting habits.

We cannot tell the motive of the Democratic members of the Senate committee in making the particular modification on which they have agreed as to the income-tax exemption. But, like the gallant Irishman who told the lady that he didn't know her age, but whatever it was she didn't look it, we feel tempted to say that, whatever object these gentlemen had in view, they have not attained it. Certainly, if they imagined that they were removing from the bill, in any degree, the reproach of its making the exemption too high, they are entirely mistaken. The exemption is lowered to $3,000 only in the case of a man having neither wife nor children to support; it will still come to $4,000 for any married man unless his wife has an income of her own large enough to be taxable; and a man with a wife and two children enjoys an exemption of $5,000. Now the total number of single men above the age of thirty is about one-seventh of the whole number of men of those ages. Hence it is probable that the number of persons cut out from the tax by the exemptions for children will exceed the number brought under it by the reduction of the basis for men without wives or children; and it is quite certain that, if this is not the case, at all events the net increase in the number of taxable persons will not be large enough to be significant.

The case for the proposed change is no better if it be regarded from the standpoint of social rather than political purpose. The effect of this trifling change in the tax as an encouragement to the rearing of families can but be insignificant. This might be different it the exemption were a low one; if persons whose income was $1,000 were subject to the tax, for example, then the relief given by a further exemption of $1,000 for the wife and $500 for each child would be somewhat considerable. To a man with $2,000 income, the $10 a year might mean a good deal; by a man with $3,000 and a wife and two children, the lifting of a $20 tax would be felt as something of a help. But what this proposal does, as compared with the original bill, is to relieve a man with $5,000 income, and a wife and two children, of the trifling tax of $10. In the case of a larger family, it is true, the effect is greater; and very possibly this may be a good thing. But if it is, manifestly the thing to do is to begin lower down with your primary exemption, and make the difference greater. If this sort of thing is worth doing at all, it is worth doing in such a way as to bring about a result not altogether insignificant.

Gov. Goldsborough, of Maryland, has named the first coming regular election day as the time for the election of a United States Senator to fill the chair made vacant by the death of Senator Rayner and now temporarily filled by Senator Jackson, a Republican appointed by the Governor. This means, virtually without doubt, the increase of the Democratic majority in the Senate by two, for the election is almost sure to result in the substitution of a Democrat for a Republican; and this in time for the whole of the regular session of Congress. But the election is of special interest as the first to be ordered under the Seventeenth Amendment, and it will take place in a State in which the evils of the indirect method of election of Senators had long been illustrated in almost their worst form and in a most conspicuous way. It is true that the Senatorial preference primaries of recent years had gone far towards changing all this; but the days of the full-fledged old-time system are not far back in the past. Throughout the long Gorman domination, the alliance between rotten politics in the nation and flagrant misrule in the State of Maryland and the city of Baltimore was complete and seemed unshakable; and no State furnished a stronger argument for the freeing of both national and State affairs from the vicious influences of the indirect method of election.

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President Wilson's selection of Judge Gerard for the German Embassy will rouse no such enthusiasm as would the choice of a man intellectually eminent, or of high public distinction, but will generally be regarded as satisfactory. The post at Berlin is of great importance, and will become more so. The need of an Ambassador to replace Leishman was urgent even before Mr. Wilson became President, and it is to be presumed that diligent search was made for a fit man. Judge Gerard has admittedly some of the qualities required. He is cultivated, has social tact, and possesses ample means. This last fact will please the Kaiser, who has never ceased to regret the loss to Berlin of Mrs. Tower, whom he called "the Moltke of society." Such a glittering social campaign as she carried on will scarcely be imitated by the Gerards, but there is every reason to expect that the new Ambassador will be welcome in Berlin and will adequately represent his country.

Secretary McAdoo's reorganization of the customs by abolishing 113 collectorships will be approved by friends of efficient and economical administration. The simplification of the service involved may be seen in the fact that only forty-nine collectors or surveyors remain. The offices of others are now under the jurisdiction of larger ports. The chief reformation is, of course, in the "interior ports of entry," such, for example, as Albany, whose tiny trickle of half a million in revenues now goes to swell New York city's annual total of nearly 200 millions. The district of New York includes five ports besides the headquarters here; that of St. Lawrence fourteen, besides Ogdensburg. In salaries the new step will save half a million yearly. In administrative complexities it will save far more. But its chief merit is that it is a slashing attack on a number of fat political plums, and is itself not dictated by political motives. In the districts remaining the present collectors will uniformly be retained. In the appointment of the new deputy collectors the Secretary has designated officers old in the service. All this indicates governmental ideals that the late Tom Reed would find it difficult to understand. When the Maine statesman was Speaker he once protested violently that to abolish the useless customs houses that sprinkled the Maine coast would break down the government—meaning, of course, the party machine.

The story put out by the lobbyist Mulhall is of a familiar type. Just how significant are its revelations can be determined only after they have been subjected to adequate scrutiny. Some of them appear to be absurd or incredible on their face; others have a *prima-facie* probability, and some are supported by documentary evidence. The one thing that is most salient in the case at first sight is the folly of the head men of the National Association of Manufacturers in carrying on such operations as, even upon the most favorable view of the case, Mulhall was entrusted with, through the agency of such a man and by means of such written correspondence as has now come to light. But, so far at least as Mr. Kirby is concerned, there ought to be nothing very surprising in this. The indiscretions now revealed can hardly give evidence of greater lack of judgment than some of the public utterances by the late president of the National Association of Manufacturers. If his secret plottings were not better managed than his open appeals to public opinion, they certainly constituted no serious danger to the republic.

The Senate last week passed the Newlands bill amending the Erdman act so as to enlarge the board of arbitration for railway labor disputes from three to six, and also to provide for the appointment by the President of an official mediator, a permanent salaried officer independent of all Government bureaus. Even as it is, the Erdman act has been of vital help in averting danger of strikes of the most serious character upon at least two occasions. But upon both those occasions, the composition of the board provided for in the act—causing, as it did, the outcome of the whole dispute to seem to turn upon the vote of one man—was so strongly objected to as to render very doubtful the reference of the dispute to any arbitration at all. In the one instance, the objection came from the railways, in the other from the men. It is a particularly gratifying feature of the present move to amend the act that it appears to have the hearty support both of the companies and of the employees. It is perhaps not too favorable a view to regard this as an illustration of the broader and better spirit that has been manifesting itself in so many ways in recent years between capital and labor.

The agreement between the Attorney-General and the Union Pacific management over the disposal of the Southern Pacific stock held by the railway company, and the acceptance of their plan by the Court, bring the solution of an unusually perplexing problem. The Union Pacific had bought about $126,000,000 of that stock—about 47 per cent. of the total amount outstanding, and therefore sufficient to control the Southern Pacific absolutely. Under the Roosevelt Administration, this virtual merger of two parallel transcontinental lines was attacked as restraint of trade. The Federal Circuit Court decided that it was not such restraint, because Harriman's primary purpose, in the operation, was to get control of the Central Pacific property. That railway did not parallel Union Pacific; it was a natural connecting line from Union Pacific's main Western terminus to the Pacific Coast; but it was owned by the Southern Pacific. The Supreme Court overruled the Circuit Court's opinion; and, though declaring the acquisition of the Central Pacific property *per se* to be entirely legal, nevertheless pronounced the purchase of the main Southern Pacific line to be contrary to the law, and ordered Union Pacific to submit to the Circuit Court, before May 10, a satisfactory plan for disposing of its $126,000,000 Southern Pacific holdings. The date was afterward extended to July 1.

The plan accepted provides for exchanging $38,000,000 of the company's Southern Pacific holdings for a nearly equal amount of Baltimore & Ohio shares, owned by the Pennsylvania, and for the lodging of the rest with a trust company, which shall have no power to vote the stock, but may sell it at intervals, between now and 1916, to buyers not identified with Union Pacific. This is a term long enough to warrant the sellers in awaiting recovery of investment markets from their present depression. Whether, in the meantime, the project of exchanging part of the

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shares for another company's holdings of another railway's stock—in which each party to the exchange gave up ownership in a parallel line for ownership in a line not subject to that objection—will be carried further, remains for events to settle. The main consideration is that a dangerous possibility in a troubled financial market has been averted.

In the course of the warmed-over sermons which Col. Roosevelt prints in last week's *Outlook* as the latest instalment of his biography, he falls foul of certain wicked editors whom he does not name. Their chief offending was that they did not agree with his view of the exalted virtues of Boss Quay. Some curiosity has been expressed as to who these mysterious editors could have been. We think we can tell. The Colonel does not name names, but he gives certain "marks," as the logicians say, by which they can be identified. For example, "they delivered malignant judgment on a dead man," meaning Quay. Now, the *Outlook* of June 11, 1904, said of Quay that he thought of politics only as a "game," and that to it he "brought the audacity of a soldier of fortune and the conscience of a gambler." It continued that Quay "was as ready to sacrifice a principle as a chessplayer is to sacrifice a pawn"; that he "believed that every man had his price," and that "the only dishonesty in politics his conscience recognized was refusal to pay the price that had been promised." This, we are confident, must have been the "malignant judgment on a dead man" which made Mr. Roosevelt so indignant.

This inference is borne out by the description of the offending editors which Mr. Roosevelt gives. He declares that he knew them, and knew that they "had led lives of bodily ease and the avoidance of bodily risk." Does not this fit the editors of the *Outlook* to a T? There is no record that Dr. Lyman Abbott ever challenged Henry Ward Beecher to put on the gloves for six rounds, or to jump off the Brooklyn Bridge, or to swim the East River with his boots on. Who ever heard of Lawrence Abbott drinking up Esel or eating crocodiles? And Mr. Mabie, instead of rushing to Africa to shoot lions, goes off tamely to Japan to give lectures. The conclusion is irresistible that these are the "bodily ease" editors whom Mr. Roosevelt had in mind. Too high praise cannot be given him for the Roman firmness with which he exposes his own associates and employers, when truth and justice demand it.

An instructive, though temporary, phase of magazine development of recent years is called to mind by the court proceedings in the case of one defunct monthly muckraking publication which carried the art of plain thinking and high living to something like perfection; with the result that millions of dollars of stock of a value approximating the price of ice at the North Pole is now held by sorrowing investors to whom the opportunity to make this a much better place to live in, and incidentally to earn 12 per cent., proved irresistible. It was as if Peter the Hermit had supplemented his enunciation of God's will with the offer of gilt-edged first mortgage securities on choice business lots in Jerusalem when that city should be taken from the Paynim. Those were mad, glad days only a few years ago when the iniquities of Wall Street were scourged in the front pages and more than imitated in the editor's confidential chats with his readers. It was one kind of manifestation of the power of the press of which all decent members of the profession felt ashamed, and whose passing seems now like the going of a nightmare.

The Latin or Crewe oration at Oxford, delivered alternately by the public orator and the professor of poetry, is usually thought of as a dry and formal piece of pedantry. In reality, although its chief purpose is the commemoration of the founders of the University, it often touches on the events of the academic year, and so is made impressive and timely. Witticisms and even puns have been known to creep into it. This year, as pronounced by the president of Magdalen, its references to the achievements of Oxford graduates during the twelvemonth just past made it a noteworthy academic document. President Warren began by mentioning the war in the Balkans, and said that peace had again and again wavered in the balance but for one man, an Oxford and a Balliol man, the glory of the house of Grey. "Ecce iterum Edvardus alter apud Pacificos audit, et beatam regis memoriam minister secutus est." Other statesmen were mentioned, with distinguished scientists and investigators; and the speaker closed with a peroration upon polar exploration, and the work of another Oxford man, whose work was ended—Captain Scott. "Percurrisse polum membris morituris eheu quid prodest? Ave atque vale, flos exploratorum, heros intrepide!" Such names as these would illuminate any oration, in English or Latin.

An unpleasant sort of international *tu quoque*, on the subject of political corruption, is making itself heard in various quarters. If an Englishman mentions the word Krupp, he instantly has Marconi hurled back at him. Hungary can throw no stone at Italy without smashing her own glass house. And all the European criminators and recriminators are taking great comfort in President Wilson's denunciation of the tariff lobby! This is not exactly done by the Italian ex-Minister, Luigi Luzzatti, writing in the *Corriere della Sera*, but he does take a little patriotic pride in affirming that a radical change in the tax laws, affecting many in Italy, was made by the Chamber, in the face of many protests from private interests, without any suspicion of corrupt methods having been even attempted. That there were gross official frauds in connection with the building of the Palace of Justice, Luzzatti does not in the least deny; but he asserts that it is hypocritical for foreign nations to point a finger of scorn at Italy on this account, or to intimate that the incident is typical of the state of her political morality. This, he declares, is not so black as it is painted by even some Italians. On one point he speaks with special knowledge. The Italian Treasury, over which he himself has presided, has been, he asserts, ever since the unification of the kingdom, absolutely free from so much as the suspicion of corruption. Finance Ministers have come and gone, superintending great fiscal operations, including several conversions of national bonds, yet no one has ever asserted that a *centesimo* stuck to the fingers of one of them. Most of them retired from office poorer than they took it.

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GROPING FOR A BUDGET.

No little confusion of thought is shown in some of the comments on the defeat, in the House Democratic caucus, of a plan for making an annual budget. This was only one plan, and it was open to several forcible objections. The proposal was that a sort of general budget committee should be formed, and that it should, at the beginning of the session, determine what the amount of the annual appropriations should be. To this sum the various spending committees would then be rigidly held. The idea was, obviously, to make some approach to the practice of other countries. But this was more in form than substance. The root of the matter in England, for example, is Ministerial responsibility. The budget is framed by the Cabinet, but if it is beaten or substantially amended by the Commons, the Cabinet resigns. Nothing of the kind could be thought of in connection with a budget committee of the House of Representatives. It would have the name but neither the power nor the perils of financial control. Moreover, as Congressman Fitzgerald argued, the practical effect of such a committee, particularly at the short session of Congress, would be so to delay the preparation of appropriation bills that some of them would be in danger of failing, or of being passed virtually without scrutiny or debate.

These and other considerations influenced the majority in the caucus to oppose the plan. It would be at best but an experiment and a makeshift. It would deal only with the debit side of the ledger; and any scheme that limits itself to outlay, with no control of tax-levying and income, it would be absurd to call a complete form of budget-framing. That we have nowhere in our system any one authority, or set of authorities, to decide both what money shall be taken from the taxpayers and what shall be appropriated for carrying on the government, has often been pointed out as a standing weakness in our public finance. Radically to cure the trouble seems impossible, with our irresponsible Ministry, but there are many ways of ameliorating it. Of these, the plan just rejected was only one; from others help may be got.

The point that President Taft drove at most strongly, in his praiseworthy efforts to introduce something like order into our chaotic budget-making, was the need of preparing full and accurate estimates for Congress. This is naturally the work of the various Cabinet officers. It has, in fact, been much more carefully done in recent years. If the House would make it a rule never to exceed these estimates, it would approximate the oldest standing order of the House of Commons, that it "will receive no petition for any sum relating to public service nor proceed upon any motion for a grant or charge upon the public revenue . . . unless recommended by the Crown"—that is, nowadays, by the Ministry. But it is one thing to lead the House of Representatives to the water, and another to make it drink. There must be within that body itself some hand or hands with the power to refuse to loosen the purse-strings, or else the most earnest efforts of the Executive to make the government economical will be in vain.

The United States once had such a power of control in the House, but we have allowed it to be dissipated. We refer to the Committee on Appropriations. Both students of public finance and men versed in the actual spending of money by Congress have agreed that the break-up of the powers of that committee, which occurred in 1885, when the right to report appropriation bills was given to eight other committees of the House, was a direct incentive to extravagance, if not an efficient cause of it. Speaker Cannon was for many years Chairman of the Appropriations Committee. As such he once uttered the profound truth: "You think my business is to make appropriations, but it is not. It is to prevent their being made." It was a similar conception of duty which Samuel J. Randall cherished; and it was by the exercise of his great power as Chairman of the Appropriations Committee that he enabled his party to make a record for economy in public expenditures never since equalled. There was ample warning against depriving the committee of its sole control. Mr. Randall protested that if the appropriations were divided up among several committees, "you will enter upon a path of extravagance you cannot foresee the length of." Mr. Cannon declared that it would by itself mean the addition of $50,000,000 a year to Government expenditures; and in his farewell speech to the House last March, he referred to what he regarded as the almost fatal change, and said that in his deliberate judgment, "based upon intimate knowledge and observation, it has cost the country many, many millions of dollars in needless appropriations and expenditures." It would be easy to multiply testimony of this sort from men of long experience in both House and Senate.

Now, there are pending in the House amendments to the rules which would restore to the Committee on Appropriations its old exclusive control over the great money bills. Their acceptance will, of course, be difficult. The other committees have tasted blood and will not meekly surrender the power they have had. The cry will be raised that such great power as it is proposed to restore to the Committee on Appropriations would be dangerous. This could partly be met by the proposal to make the Committee larger, with the chairmen of other committees serving on it, and so dovetailing the business of the House. But real authority to control expenditures must be vested somewhere. The happy-go-lucky method stands condemned. Expenditures have been running wild with the reins on their neck. To some man or committee must be given the right to apply the curb-bit; and if the House does not approve the plan of a general budget committee, it might well consider going back to the old form of control through a single Appropriations Committee.

SOBERNESS AND PROGRESS.

A statement was issued the other day by a notable committee of social workers in relation to the agitation which flared up so violently two or three months ago over the relation between low wages and vice. They do not undertake to dispose of the question; indeed, the statement is rather in the nature of an expression of general attitude. But that attitude is highly significant; and, moreover, it is the attitude which has been taken by sober and wise persons generally. The committee are of the opinion that the actual form taken by the agitation has been such that "grave evils are likely to result" from it and that these have "in many cases already resulted." They do not deny—as indeed no sensible person can deny—that economic causes are

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in many instances an important factor in causing girls to yield to temptation, but they regard as vastly more important causes those moral, educational, and social influences, and those defects of character, which have always been held chiefly accountable for the evil. So far as formal investigations of a statistical character throw light on the subject, they support the view thus expressed broadly by the members of this committee, whose judgment was formed either on wide experience in investigation or on long-standing personal contact with the problem.

Now it may always be urged in behalf of the violent, or extravagant, or hysterical methods of reform agitation that after all it makes no practical difference whether the statements it goes upon are anywhere near the truth or not, provided only that the object aimed at is a good one. If, in order to rouse the public, it is necessary to go about shouting wildly and making extravagant assertions, why should any one seriously object? The noise of the campaign will soon be forgotten, while its substantial result will abide; to be squeamish about the means is to sacrifice the end. Now there may be some plausibility in this view. But one has not to go far in order to find fatal objections to it. In this particular instance, an objection of the most vital nature is indicated in the remarks of the committee. They speak of serious evils that have resulted from the agitation; what they had in mind is not difficult to conjecture. The agitators were so possessed with the idea that low wages are the one great cause of vice, that not a few of them deliberately encouraged and propagated the notion that comfortable wages were the only possible safeguard of a working girl's virtue; some men went so far as to declare that the want of them was in itself as great an evil as a life of shame. This monstrous view, as absurd as it is pernicious, would never have been entertained, even by the light-minded persons who took it, but for the previous undermining of their judgment through gross exaggeration and distortion of the facts.

But it is not only, and not chiefly, on account of evils which may incidentally attend it that the hysterical method of attacking public questions is to be condemned. There are few public policies so supremely essential that questions of degree are of no consequence in connection with them; few measures whose benefit is so clear and so overwhelming that all considerations of countervailing evil become insignificant or impertinent. At the present time there are many great questions of politics in which the judgment of any reasonable man must turn upon a balancing of the evils for which a remedy is proposed against the evils to which the remedy itself may expose us. In every such case, the difference between looking soberly at the facts and running wild among them is just the difference between political sanity and political insanity. If, for instance, corruption on the bench were a prevailing and incurable condition, the recall of judges might be a proposal that we ought all to go in for unreservedly; if, on the other hand, it is a rare thing, and has been becoming rarer through the growing tendency to divorce judicial elections from party politics, then the fact that the recall would tend to diminish judicial independence and to make the bench less attractive to a high type of lawyer becomes the predominant consideration. Or, again, in regard to the banking and currency bill now about to become the chief subject of Congressional discussion. It may be that we must resort to extreme measures of Government control, must confer upon a board of Presidential appointees powers such as are not exercised by any similar body in any country in the world; but if we are to arrive at a reasonable judgment in this matter, we have to begin by thinking soberly and exactly of the facts in our own and other countries, and not be carried away by vague generalities that will not bear examination.

A phrase that used to figure prominently in American political discussion was "the sober second thought." It became tiresome, and has now been long out of fashion. The need itself, however, has not, we are convinced, been outgrown. We are much quicker than in the past to adopt measures plainly dictated by considerations of the general welfare; and this, so far, is good. But there are things which in their nature demand grave and cautious consideration, and here the sober second thought must still be counted on to assert itself. As for its justification in the past, a single instance may suffice to show it in a most striking way. At the time of the great silver agitation, everything turned on the ability of great multitudes of Americans to keep their heads. If they had been carried away by the appearances of the moment; if they had thought that the experience of a few years was everything, and that the principles of sound monetary policy, taught by ages of experience, were nothing, they would have made the mad dash which was urged upon them so plausibly and which for a time the nation seemed bent upon. The firmness of a few strong men, above all of President Cleveland, stemmed the rush, and thus the indispensable thing was gained—time for the nation to find itself. In matters even more vital than that, the same need will continue to exist in all those times that try the stuff of which a republic is made.

SOME NATIONAL SHORTCOMINGS.

There are several standing confessions of weakness or guilt that we Americans make as a nation. Every great conflagration gives rise to a full crop of editorial lamentations over the enormous waste caused by fires in this country; and when there is no great conflagration, the annual figures of the fire loss suffice to remind us that we so far outtop the leading nations of Europe in this respect as to be in a class by ourselves. Our annual number of homicides is equally distinguished above that of any other country standing beside us in general civilization and humanity. There are certain classes of accidents concerning which something of the same sort is true; notably as to the number of persons killed while trespassing on railway tracks. The death of 5,449 persons in this way in the United States last year must seem astonishing to any inhabitant of Germany or England.

In recent years attention has been earnestly directed to quite another kind of shortcoming. Throughout the movement for the systematic provision of indemnity to workingmen for industrial accidents, special point has been given to the agitation by reference to the fact that we are only now beginning to do what Germany has long done in scientific ways and on a comprehensive scale. Western and Southern farmers have

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been bewailing for half a century the lack of credit facilities which would greatly promote the possibilities of agricultural enterprise; yet little has thus far come of the agitation, and it is only within the last year or two that the movement has acquired real body and momentum. And this has come about through insistence on the great benefits and the vast extent of agricultural credit institutions in several European countries; as a result of the impetus given by President Taft, and by various State associations and State governments, a large and representative commission is now on a tour of examination into the question in Europe, and will doubtless, upon its return, put the movement into shape for real achievement. To mention only one more instance, but one in some respects more remarkable than any of the others, the scheme of cooperative retail stores, which has had so enormous a development in England, and the idea of which has been familiar here almost as long as there, has never been able to get beyond the most rudimentary stage in this country. "The 'effete' monarchies across the water," says Mr. H. W. Lanier, in an article in the *World's Work* for July, "are a generation ahead of us in true democratic coöperation"; and this is undeniably a fact, at least so far as coöperative buying and selling is concerned.

As to some of these things it has been largely the fashion, in these latter years, to lay the blame on the supremacy of money, or of factors in the population that are dominated by money. If we do not guard against fires in which working people's lives are endangered as well as other nations do; if we have more mine explosions; if we are twenty years behind the times in compulsory workingmen's insurance provisions—all this is because our government has been under the thumb of capital in a greater degree than elsewhere. There may be an element of truth in this charge; but it is not the only factor in the case, and indeed we are inclined to think that it is among the least essential of the factors. Nor does that other explanation, that with us government effectiveness in these matters has been made impossible by our system of division of powers between the States and the nation, to our mind go much further. Within the past few years, we have been making rapid headway in all these things—child labor, workmen's compensation, sanitary regulation, industrial inspection—and neither the opposition of capitalistic interests nor the division of political jurisdiction has offered any formidable obstacle to the process. Given the one thing needful, the awakening of genuine and general interest in the questions, the rest has been easy.

The main cause, we are convinced, is a certain characteristic of the American temperament—what the French would call a defect of its quality. It is difficult to get Americans to take very seriously a great many things that people in other countries take very seriously indeed. Diverse as are the various matters we have instanced—and many more might be cited—there is one thing they have in common. Americans are no more indifferent about their own lives than other people, but they *will* walk along a railway track if it happens to be handy; they *will* crowd on the running-board of a trolley car rather than wait a quarter of an hour, and the only way to keep them from leaping from the dock onto a departing ferry-boat is to shut them off with gates. They are willing to take chances where other people are not, and they are not so willing to take a lot of trouble to gain comparatively small or remote benefits or to prevent comparatively rare or improbable evils, as other people are. It takes a deal of keen interest, and devotion to troublesome details, to build up a great coöperative retail-store system, and the 5 or 10 per cent. saving does not appeal strongly to the American nature. We should have had workmen's compensation laws long ago if the workmen themselves had felt very keenly about it. The very energy of the American nature, the masterful spirit of its achievement, result in a slighting of what does not present itself to the general mind as part of the main stream of activity. That proverbial good nature which causes us to suffer without a murmur a thousand little nuisances which in other countries are resented and repressed is in part a sign of our strength and our prosperity, in part a manifestation of our unwillingness to take trouble about anything outside our daily business. To good-nature, to indifference, and to a certain slothfulness in outlying matters which is perhaps the correlative of our tremendous energy in what we regard as our main business, may safely be ascribed a great part of whatever shortcomings we have exhibited as a people.

THE HEYDAY OF LIBRARIANS.

Any one who has followed the meetings of the American Library Association, which ended last Saturday, after a week's session at Kaaterskill, N. Y., must have been set reflecting seriously in several directions. The public library, with a lifetime in this country of scarcely more than sixty years, has already reached that highly specialized development which characterizes the public school The old-fashioned browsing which used to unearth many a delightful book that one wasn't looking for is largely a thing of the past. Books must be classified in reference rooms according to the divisions of knowledge which now form the plan of public instruction. This serves a purpose which should not be hastily minimized. The library is attempting to-day as never before to meet the needs of a most heterogeneous public. Particular attention is given to those who cannot readily help themselves. Experts are employed to pick out books best suited to immigrants, to ambitious farm-hands and factory workers, to children, legislators, and business men. Volumes are also lent by one community to another. No better illustration of the contrast of former conditions with modern could be found than that furnished by one who took part in the Conference. She visited a library in England where the tradition was still maintained of chaining the books to the shelves; yet the same day she saw books in trucks on the way to the provinces. So greatly has the spirit changed that the up-to-date librarian, she said, had to restrain himself from running out into the highway and chaining books to the passer-by!

With the minute organization which is now the rule in public libraries goes a sense of power and responsibility which has given even those possessed of it some pause. Mingled with much talk about highly specialized efficiency was frequently heard a note of warning lest the library should have a disintegrating effect. As President Legler put it, the public is tending towards a "rag-time" habit of mind which the library can

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help to correct only by installing a director and assistants with proper personalities. However detailed its system, an institution should strive to allure its readers to its best possessions in general fields of knowledge. Mr. Legler would probably not go so far as one of several outsiders whose criticism was invited by the Conference. According to this very zealous gentleman, the head of a public library should be the mayor of thoughts in his community, and above all should be personally acquainted with the interests of the young people. Find the boy and connect him with the right book, that is the first duty. But in the case at least of children the library has virtually been doing this. The space and thought given to juveniles in institutions of New York, Boston, and Chicago makes the task of parents easy and delightful. And librarians are now hoping to render other departments equally inviting. The necessity is clear, the problem is how to meet it. Much could be accomplished, it is felt, if heads and attendants had leisure for daily reading. Then we might hope for more of such outstanding figures as Winsor, and especially certain Englishmen who, while carrying on their duties in the British Museum or the Bodleian, have shown by their publications how wide-ranging were their minds.

Closely connected with this, though it received but brief discussion by the Association, is the amount of attention which any large public library should devote to scholars. What with all the thought bestowed upon those who have to be driven to the shelves, it is a question whether the natural bookman is not somewhat neglected. To compare the New York Public Library with the British Museum is not altogether fair, yet the mere physical conveniences in London might be reproduced. The scholar is not so easily distracted as the poet, but to sit at a great flat table with no division into desks, and to be obliged to walk into a distant room to consult the card catalogue, is distracting to even prosaic moods. If more warmth of personality is really desired for the public library, and if it is to be an intellectual centre, there is no better way to begin than to heed the comfort of those who by their equipment are intellectual leaders.

One other important problem which confronted the Association was that of selecting new books. The general public hardly appreciates how much is involved. Here the power exercised affects not only readers, but the very life of a large class of publications. For to the discerning it is well known that unless publishers could count on the public library patronage, they would not dare to issue certain volumes at all. Works selling at three or five dollars may be highly important, even though they cannot expect large private sales. But other works got out at these prices in attractive bindings are utterly worthless, and here librarians might do much more than they have done to keep them off the market. The case of fiction is very different. The demand for stories being what it is, librarians have no such power of veto; but they have begun to see that every best seller need not be acquired. Yet if fiction is in their province, where shall they draw the line? Mr. Robert Herrick, to whom the question was put, complicated the matter still further by insisting that "The Kreutzer Sonata" was much less harmful to young readers than, say, "The Rosary." And other writers urged great caution in instituting censorship; they would set up truth to life as the proper standard of selection. Unanimity is not to be expected from the Council, with whom the subject was left. But it would appear that some thoroughgoing policy ought to be adopted. The function of a good library should be not only to acquire but quite as much to reject; and just now fiction is sorely in need of weeding.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION.

A strong current in present-day American life, felt in the industrial world, and even in the most sheltered bays of education, is the growing belief in the relation between industrial efficiency and education. Vocational training is becoming a great popular demand. A complex population, called upon to defend its economic position against the world's competition, is requiring public provision for teaching its masses of artisans and technicians. The complaint is that the common schools have insisted upon preparation for life without insisting as well upon preparation for livelihood. The progress of the movement in recent years, with many in the colleges crying it down, and more in the high schools urging it on, is impressive. The first State subsidy for agricultural or trade training is younger than the century. Yet now twenty-nine States have passed laws concerning industrial education. The national Government has established vocational training in the island possessions, and the recent Page bill would have extended some features of the system over the country. Ohio and Wisconsin have virtually compelled working children to attend public trade schools, which industrial communities must support. Many large cities have carried manual-training and business schools farther than the State. And this is in the face of assertions that vocational education will not merely ruin the liberal school system, but will institute a modified class-division along European lines.

A study of the recent pamphlet of the United States Bureau of Education on "German Industrial Education" leaves no doubt of the value of the system in building up the commercial and mechanical fabric in Europe. Even in England, where education broadens very slowly from precedent to precedent, the polytechnic movement has spread, and the higher technical schools have become central schools, with a definite aim in preparing boys for office and shop. But it is in Germany that an alliance of trade guilds and educators shows the Empire's alertness to a monumental scheme of practical education. Institutions like the Charlottenburg Royal Technical High School, and the Leipzig High School of Commerce, with thousands of students from all over the world, take university rank, and combine valuable researches with the highest industrial training. The "improvement schools" of Munich, which Dr. Kerchensteiner originated for youths who entered trades at the earliest legal age, have been imitated, until there are now several thousand, attendance upon which is compulsory for hundreds of thousands of apprentices. The trade guilds have partial direction of these schools, and contracting employers must see that their boys and girls attend classes. Guild schools, state trade schools, and state commercial schools abound everywhere. Every boy must choose, according to his means and aptitudes, among the preparations

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offered by classical, semi-classical, liberal, technical, commercial, or trade schools, or must enter a shop with the privilege of going to improvement schools. His life thus gets its permanent direction. The plan crowns with glory the brave efforts of Fichte to start the nation in the paths of scientific experimentation and labor. It has given its point to the Kaiser's watchword that "the future of Germany is on the seas." But it emphasizes the *Stand*, the idea of position and plane of endeavor. And it makes a failure of the boy who chooses wrong at the outset.

Most of the demand for vocational education here is from wage-earning citizens, with children in school. Some of it is from men who, like one of the heads of the Curtis Publishing Company in Philadelphia a few days ago, complain that to find one well-trained man they must examine fifty applicants. Minimum wage laws have given it an impetus, for the State cannot force employers to pay men high wages without first guaranteeing, by its system of education, that they are worth it. Finally, the high-school teachers who translate the artisan's desire to have his children made as practically useful as possible, see in their educational reforms an economical millennium. It is in the haste and narrowness of this last attitude that there lurks danger.

Dr. Kerchensteiner's object in the improvement schools of Germany was to train citizens by connecting "a built-up readiness for service, action, and ethical devotion with an insight into the purposes of the state." That, as he remarked in a recent lecture in America, the German trade training makes for "conscientiousness, diligence, self-restraint, and devotion to a strenuous life," the character of the expanding German people testifies. The Wisconsin law of 1911, compelling the weekly instruction of apprentices in English and citizenship, is a reflection of this spirit, and there should be more of it in vocational circles.

But the most dismaying aspect of the movement is that some of its shorter-sighted promoters express a jealousy of liberal education, which they believe no working community should be forced to maintain. It has always been hard to keep alive in the business and laboring classes full faith in the finer fruits of education. The great State universities are already protesting that the genius of vocational instruction is inimical to intellectual ideals. So long as those who advocate public trade schools and technical schools urge a drastic "scrapping" in industrial communities of the older system, with its Latin and Greek, its literatures and pure mathematics, there must remain this bitterness; the result in the end would be an unnatural cleavage between endowed schools and State schools, and the closing of the higher privileges of education to all but the well-to-do. To avoid this harsh discrimination, we should not require a general hardening of occupational lines, leaving the topmost stratum of society alone to cultivate the liberal studies. It must be realized that education everywhere is primarily for life and not livelihood, and that new forms and new institutions must have plenty of time to grow, even in this impatient age.

RECENT GERMAN NOVELS AND "NOVELLEN."

The influence of psychological research upon modern German fiction and drama is assuming amazing proportions. The frequent occurrence in recent books of a profound and unexpected change in the character of men of mature years seems curiously to agree with the theory of a climacteric which was discussed in the reviews a few months ago.

The new story of Jacob Wassermann, "Der Mann von vierzig Jahren" (Berlin: S. Fischer), is an absorbing narrative which deals with a country gentleman of irreproachable character, a happy husband and father, who suddenly conceives an irresistible desire for freedom from matrimonial ties, and with the valet of his youth starts upon a quest of adventure. After two years' absence upon an Odyssey of emotional experiences, he returns, infatuated with a singer and determined upon divorce. But his child is ill, his estate mismanaged, and the country on the eve of the war with France. He joins his battalion, is wounded, and, during the long weeks at the hospital, finds himself. Nursed back to health by his wife, he resumes his previous life, accepting the fact that it is beautiful to be, more beautiful to work—all of which is recounted with an admirable objectivity and in a style of rare charm.

"Die Hirtenflöte" in Arthur Schnitzler's remarkable volume, "Masken und Wunder" (S. Fischer), deals with a critical turning-point in the life of an elderly man of scholarly tastes who suddenly becomes aware that the young wife with whom he has so far been happy is more of a stranger to him than the stars he studies in his observatory. He sends her out into the world to be free to follow the lure of life and "realize" herself, and on her return, to-morrow or in ten years, her home and her husband shall be ready to welcome her. After futile protests the woman leaves upon her pilgrimage, drifts along the line of least resistance, has love affairs, idyllic, romantic, and tragic, and returns to the husband who rejoices that now she may know herself and he be sure of her. But she tells him that, while in her previous ignorance and dependence she had never been able to find herself, thrust into independence and temptation, she had completely lost herself—and she turns from him and disappears forever.

Thomas Mann, whose "Buddenbrooks" placed him in the foremost rank of German novelists, also handles in his latest work a fatal crisis in a man's life. But his masterly Novelle, "Der Tod in Venedig" (S. Fischer), appeals to a much smaller circle of readers than the famous novel which is now in its sixtieth edition, because its strength lies in the subtleties of its psychology and the distinction of its style. The story begins with an intimate record of the morbid moods and the paralyzed energies of a famous writer and widower of fifty, who suffers from overwork. By the sight of an uncanny stranger, whose appearance suggests a wanderer in many lands, he is suddenly roused from his indecision and goes to Venice for a rest. But Venice is hot and stuffy, there is an air of mystery about it, and his sole enjoyment is to watch the singularly beautiful boy of a Polish family stopping at the same hotel on the Lido. The reappearance of the uncanny stranger is fraught with symbolical meaning. An odor of disinfectants mingles with the ordinary atmosphere of the city: inquiries whether there is an epidemic meet with emphatic denial, but the foreign papers disappear from the reading-room. When the hero at last learns the truth, watching the fascinating child has become an obsession, and he has not the energy to leave. There is an extraordinary working up of the narrative to the day when the Polish family prepares to depart and the hero, who has watched the boy wade far out into the surf, fancies that he sees him beckon, tries to rise from his chair, and falls unconscious.

Another noteworthy story also owes its inception to the plague. The hero of Anselm Heine's "Die Erscheinung" (Berlin: Egon Fleischel) is a German engineer who on his homeward voyage from years of work on the Marshall Islands succumbs to a wave of sentiment, and, half-awake, dreams of a fair woman. Opening his eyes, he sees the object of his vision coming towards his steamer, and on leaving port discovers

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her among the passengers. They become acquainted and engaged, and go to Paris, where he has business at the Exposition. The lady is ill the morning after their arrival; he leaves her in the care of a chambermaid and goes about his business. When he returns at night, he goes to her room to inquire, and finds it open and empty. For fear of compromising her, he awaits the morning, asks for his companion, and is told that no lady of that name had been at the hotel. Ranting and raving, appealing to the police and the consulate, are of no avail; he is treated like a lunatic, and finally is forced to leave town. Years of research fail to find a trace of her who had come and gone like a vision, but the secret annals of the Paris police contain the clue to the mystery.

The devious paths by which people arrive at the goal of their desire or the fulfilment of their fate is the theme of "Umwege," a volume of stories by Hermann Hesse, the author of "Peter Camenzind," which is now in its sixtieth edition. They deal with no unusual types of humanity, and are told simply and convincingly. The revolt of a priest against monastic seclusion, a well-worn topic usually invested with a sickly sentimentalism, receives a distinctly new note in the story of Pater Mathias. The priest's trespass against the vows of his calling occurs also in one of the strangely fascinating stories by Carl Hauptmann, "Nächte" (Leipzig: Kurt Wolff). But the ripest work that has come so far from the pen of that interesting writer is his new novel, "Ismael Friedmann" (Kurt Wolff), in which he has reached a formal mastery barely suggested in his earlier works. The structure of this story is solid, the portrayal of the characters direct and logical. Even the style is more forcible and lucid. The hero is the son of a Jewish prince of industry and a Protestant pastor's daughter, and combines the keen analytical spirit of the father's race with the imaginative dreamy soul of the mother. He looks like the Nazarene, but he is a Nietzschean individualist. He has a disregard for the material sources of his father's wealth; he would intellectualize and spiritualize life, but he could not do without the luxury and the comfort into which he has been born and the sensuous æstheticism which has enslaved him. He has flashes of genius, and is expected some day to startle the world with a great work, but, undisciplined by necessity, he does not know what real work is. He is morbidly self-conscious, and will not yield to the desire of woman at an age when he might love spontaneously. When he returns to the sweetheart of his early youth, the only daughter of an aristocratic neighbor, she, too, has changed, become too introspective and self-centred in her isolation, and is unable to share her inner life with another. A striking contrast is furnished by the other couple in the story, Ismael's sister Isot, and his friend Johannes, who cheerfully accept the fundamental facts of life, have numerous offspring, and live as happily as any fairy-tale lovers. Although of such frequent occurrence as to be a commonplace, such inter-marriage is much discussed in Germany, since race physiologists are concerned about the purity of the Teutonic race; and the dignified handling of the problem in "Ismael Friedmann" has received very favorable comment. The book is ranked as the most remarkable novelty of the season.

That form of fiction which offers a forecast of the future without being exactly Utopian, has of late been profoundly affected by industrial progress. The perspectives opened by American achievements have proved so rich in suggestion to the Germans that they have begun to feel the poetry of matter and of sheer material power. Such a "Zukunftsroman" is Bernhard Kellermann's "Der Tunnel" (S. Fischer), which deals with the stupendous problem of a submarine tunnel connecting America and Europe. Mac Allan, the discoverer of Allanite, the diamond steel which revolutionizes the work of excavation; his wife, Maud; his friend, the architect æsthete, Hobby; Lloyd, the prince of finance, and his daughter Ethel, are living and just impersonations. There is even a suggestion of insight into their inner life, as in the chapter succeeding the death of Maud and the child, when the mask is lifted from the undemonstrative Allan, and the man who seems all brains and grit is revealed as a man of tender and profound sentiment. But the interest of the foreign readers will undoubtedly centre in the pictures of the feverish activity of New York and Tunnel City, which vibrate with the rhythmical motion of monster machines and the dramatic intensity of a life which runs along at an even more rapid pace than that of to-day. The story is altogether extraordinary.

Jacob Schaffner, the young Swiss writer whose "Konrad Pilater" and "Irrfahrten" proclaimed him a worthy successor of Gottfried Keller, has also a story of modern industrial life in his collection, "Die goldene Fratze" (S. Fischer). Its title, "Der eiserne Götze," suggests the symbolical power of the great dynamo that governs the activities of the town. The atmosphere is alive with the thump of levers and the whirr of wheels, the glint of steel, the fumes of engine fires, and the exhalations of a mass of men toiling in the sweat of their brows. The *dramatis personæ* stand out effectively against this background: a middle-aged foreman who, engrossed in his work and his labor union, neglects his young wife, a sister of Shaw's Candida in the rough, who in her innocent way flirts with a young mechanic of impetuous temperament and dashing manners, admitted into the house as boarder. The youth with the Garibaldi tie becomes enamored of her, and when he realizes that she has no thought of surrendering to him, sulks and harbors hatred against the husband. Strikes and sabotage enter into the action of the story, and a fist-to-fist fight between the two men on the gallery surrounding the mechanical colossus. But no touch of sensationalism spoils the well-tempered colors of this picture of modern labor.

A book of Lothringian stories inevitably suggests comparison with the work of French writers, like Maurice Barrès. But Bernd Isemann's "Lothringische Novellen" (S. Fischer) do not touch the rankling problem of the lost province. They deal with the past of a family of Lothringian farmers of peasant stock, but enjoying the economic ease which insures comfort and culture. With the true story-teller's gift, Isemann pictures their life, sowing, planting, and reaping, with a genuine joy of activity, and drinking, laughing, and loving with a robust appetite and an untroubled conscience.

Marie Vaërting is another new writer whose work merits attention. In her first book, "Haskamps Anna" (Munich: Albert Langen), she portrayed a young girl incapable of correlating the traditional sentiments of girlhood with the new idea of intellectual development. The heroine of her second book, "Max Treumanns erste Liebe" (Albert Langen), is a fair representative of the new woman in whom vague aspirations have matured into practical realities, who has grown into a personality, has found her vocation, and is esteemed for her work by her professional colleagues. The attitude of the ordinary woman of the old type towards the new variety is suggested by that of her boarding-house neighbor towards Toni, and is not without humor.

The latest work of Emmy von Egidy, "Mathias Werner" (S. Fischer), is a fair specimen of that author's dignity and distinction. In other hands the plot of the story might have become a sensational serial: she has handled it with refinement and depth. The hero who gives his name to the story is the illegitimate son of an aristocratic father and a peasant mother, neither of whom can he remember. He grows up in the care of a village schoolmaster, who would adopt him, but the stern guardian withholds his consent. The mystery of his birth hangs heavy over the youth with the sensitive Hamlet soul, who longs for a home and a purpose in life, but whose initiative is at every step restricted. During a sojourn in Rome with some college friends—chapters

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which give most fascinating glimpses of a group of ardent young souls—Mathias succumbs to the lure of the Roman Catholic Church; but when he decides to embrace its faith, he is disowned, left to shift for himself without means, and cannot cast anchor in the harbor he had dreamed of. The world that had known him loses sight of Mathias in the years of struggle, spiritual and material, that follow. Not until long after obtaining his majority does he find a home with the widow of his father, who had been prevented by a clause of the will from adopting him before. Absorbing as this plot may be to the ordinary fiction reader, the paramount interest of the book lies in the development of the hero's character and the portrayal of the men and women that enter into his life.

Clara Viebig, who is probably to-day the most popular of German woman novelists, has in her latest novel, "Das Eisen im Feuer" (Egon Fleischel), reconstructed the life of Berlin people during the period between the revolution of 1848 and the war of 1866. The book suggests comparison with "Die Wacht am Rhein," of which the scene was Düsseldorf. But the author has certainly not lost any of the qualities that characterized the earlier work: her firm grasp upon the realities of life, her amazing faculty of reflecting the spirit of a place and its people, and the gift of throwing upon the canvas in broad, sure strokes the living types of plain folk.

A. von Ende.

NEWS FOR BIBLIOPHILES.

In such a work as the Oxford English Dictionary, which is made "on historical principles," and which embodies the best work of the most eminent British scholars in English, we may be sure that it is the intention of its editors to live up to the ideal of that work by invariably verifying deliberate statements of fact. A continued use of that work, however, discloses a number of unaccountable lapses in accuracy.

For example, why is it said that the word *sepal* is "formed after *petalum* petal by substitution of the syllable of Latin *separatus* separate"? This etymology agrees with the statements of other dictionaries made prior to the year 1900, but it is a statement that plainly needs verification, and is easily verifiable, for it is also stated that the term was proposed by Necker in 1790. This date is not given in any of the standard English dictionaries prior to 1900, and the fact that it is given lends to the whole etymology an air of historical accuracy that is entirely assuring. It appears, however, that *sepal* is not from L. *separatus*, but was coined by Necker, in 1790, from the Greek word σκέπη, covering; for he himself states this to be the origin of the term, as is mentioned in the New International Dictionary, published in 1909, three years before the publication of this part of the Oxford work. Besides this, Benjamin Daydon Jackson, secretary of the British Linnæan Society, in his "Glossary of Botanical Terms," published in 1900, gives this same Greek word as the source of Necker's term. This glossary was known to the Oxford editors, for they quote from it their definition of the word *sclereid*.

This is not a unique instance of what appear to be mistakes arising from failure to verify statements of fact where verification was clearly necessary, and could readily be made. If we go back to the first section published, we find Lindley, the British botanist, cited as authority for the statement that an *anonad* is a plant "allied to the pineapple," though the anonads, in fact, are dicotyledonous trees of the custard-apple family, and the pineapple is a monocotyledonous herb; the two plants are not even remotely related. Besides this, Lindley, in his latest edition, at least, says nothing that would justify such a statement. Whether he does in the earliest one is a matter of indifference, so far as the definition of the word is concerned. Under *anonaceous* it is stated that the word is from the "New Latin *anona*, a pineapple," and this meaning for the New Latin word seems as unsupportable as the definition of *anonad*.

So under the word *molasses*, the comment is made that: "In the Western U. S. (according to Bartlett *Dict. Americanisms*, 275) it is treated as a plural." The note to this effect first appears in Bartlett in the edition of 1859, and is retained in the edition of 1877, with the addition that: "When England condescends to use this word instead of treacle, she generally makes it plural." This incorrect statement, together with the fact that none of the standard American dictionaries of English mention such a peculiarity of Western U. S. usage, and the fact that the later dictionary of Americanisms by Sylvia Clapin (which has been quoted by the Oxford work) makes no mention of it, was enough to have made it clear that reliance could not be placed upon Bartlett's unsupported statement.

Whatever be the explanation of these shortcomings, they illustrate a defect, perhaps the most serious one, of the Oxford work—the failure to make an adequate use of standard works of reference; for in each of these cases a casual reference to the appropriate reference books would have given us history instead of erroneous statements. It is a source of real distress to see in its beautiful pages, beautiful in typography as well as in learning, the repeated discrepancies which arise from this lack of sufficient verification, in vocabulary, definitions, and citations.

For instance, medical and mineralogical terms are often included though of the most trivial importance, apparently merely because there happened to be a note or memorandum of the terms, with the definitions, as given in such and such dictionaries or textbooks. But often in these cases, a cursory reference to the works referred to, or to other contemporaneous works, discloses that there are other words of more importance that are not included in the Oxford work, or that there are obvious defects in the definitions there given. Similarly, words or senses are marked "Obs." when numerous instances of their current use may be found by a moment's reference to standard reference books. For example, *liquidate*, in the sense of "to determine and apportion by litigation," is marked "Obs.", and the last citation given for its use is: "1798 Bay Amer. Law Rep. (1809) I. 114 Agreed to pay the debt on its being liquidated." The word, however, is, in the sense shown in this citation, very far from being obsolete. Hundreds of present-day citations for its use can readily be found in the standard law reference books, British or American.

Archbishop Trench, in his outlines of how such a dictionary of English should be made, from which the Oxford work took its conception, counselled the general omission of technical terms; and we cannot but deplore, at times, that his wise counsel was not more closely followed. A dear price is paid when invariable accuracy and harmonious proportion are sacrificed for the sake of a big vocabulary. But we may be sure that this commercial necessity is regretted by no one so much as by the editors themselves. The only question is, whether it really was a commercial necessity to overburden the editors for such a result, when a stricter line of inclusion would have left them ample time to achieve virtual infallibility, at least in matters of historical reference, and would have afforded space as well as time for a larger view of subjects for the treatment of which the editors have an unequalled opportunity, an opportunity that, perhaps, will never be duplicated.

F. Sturges Allen.

Correspondence

ELECTIONS IN OREGON.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: A notice in the *Nation* of the result of a recent election in Portland, Ore., might be of interest, since you comment so fairly upon the political phase of our national life. The city of Portland adopted a commission charter, and is, therefore, one of the largest cities trying this form of government. It is difficult to prognosticate the result of this action on the part of the electorate, but two important political facts were emphasized by the election of the Mayor and commissioners. The value of women's votes was attested and generally conceded, and the ability of the electorate to use a modernized system, the preferential system, of balloting was shown. There was no well-defined or exciting issue at stake, yet a large vote was cast, and a choice made of five men which could not have been bettered had it been made by the directors of a large corporation. The men who, under the ward system, had heretofore been uniformly successful in gaining office, as well as some who had been nominated under the old plan, were decisively beaten, and the offices were given to persons of known ability and, in the main, with no political affiliations. Our charter calls for a non-partisan ballot, with nomination by petition. Ninety candidates filed for five offices, and those elected were two Democrats, one Progressive, and two Republicans. Their party affiliation was published as a mere incident to election comment after the voting. The largest vote was received by a man closely affiliated with the labor unions, an officer, in fact, who has the general confidence of the public and whose candidacy had been by the wise provision of the charter divorced from the question of labor and capi-

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tal. The defeated and undesirable candidates had made a strong campaign, the successful ones a wholesome presentation of their qualifications, as well as their records.

I may venture to state that when the present commission takes office Portland will have as its public servants a group of men that any corporation would be glad to employ. Democracy has proved less of a fizzle here than many of our commentators would allow. A municipality of two hundred and odd thousand is basking in the belief that the people have a fair ability to take care of themselves.

JONAH B. WISE.

Portland, Ore., June 17.

LIBERTY IN TEACHING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: In his book, "Sittlichkeit und Religion," Direktor Dr. M. Jahn writes: "We do not believe that teachers will mutilate science in so far as it has a place in the school, for the sake of the Confessions, thereby separating the school from the spirit of the time and from actual life, the very thing for which the school is to prepare." And in another place: "The Catholic Church assumes from the very beginning that a large portion of the people cannot grasp a right understanding of the dogma. For the laity there is the *fides implicita, i. e.,* faith in the authority of the Church. . . . This view the Protestant Church has rejected."

But the Protestant denominational college and theological school in America are still to a certain extent built upon the assumption that there is a *fides implicita,* and expect, or even require, the teacher to mutilate science so as to make it agree with the Confessions. When Union Seminary graduates young men who have been taught to face modern theological problems, the church to which they come is stirred up and protests are raised against the institution. Dr. Mecklin, of Lafayette, resigns because the conditions of his professorship do not permit a free discussion of scientific problems. A student in theology who gives his private views in reply to his professor's question is told that he has come to study the views taught by professors, and not to think for himself. The deciding question in the choice of theological professors is almost invariably: Is he orthodox? which is taken to mean: Will he teach nothing that is not approved by the Confessions?

Unquestionably every church and every school has a right to require of its teachers what it pleases. It may be well, however, to consider the consequences. If the school training is in contradiction with the science and best thought of the day, the student will either remain out of sympathy with his fellowmen and without deep influence upon them—a fair explanation of the weakness of the church; or, learning outside of college and seminary to appreciate modern thought and science, he will be out of sympathy with his teachers and will speak of the emptiness and deadness and uselessness of theology.

Can the Protestant Church afford either alternative? When shall we in this country of the free church appreciate what a German has written of the Free Church in Germany? "It will be the task of the Free Church to prove that it, as a church built upon a Confession, also has the power in a greater degree than the state church to influence religiously those people who are estranged from religion. Only if the Lutheran Free Church is equal to this task will it have a future and become an important factor in the further development of the Lutheran Church in Germany." In America every church is in the position of the Free Church in Germany and confronts the same task. And every church which handicaps itself by training its people not to be in sympathy with modern life and thought is really helping the cause of the Roman Church, which alone can with good grace hold a doctrine of *fides implicita.*

(REV.) W. A. LAMBERT.

South Bethlehem Pa., June 24.

BIRDS AND THE TARIFF.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Bird protectionists are much exercised about a brief and apparently harmless amendment to the clause in the new Tariff bill which would prohibit the importation of wild birds' plumage for millinery purposes. This amendment has been approved by the majority members of the Senate Finance Committee, and was reported to the Senate Democratic caucus on Saturday. It exempts the plumage of all birds killed as "game" for food, and of all birds alleged to be "pests."

Whether or not the milliners are aware of it, this concession to them and to the feather trade involves much more than appears on its surface. The purpose of the original section (which was prepared and presented by the New York Zoölogical Society, and is receiving the active support of the National Association of Audubon Societies) was to enlist the United States Government in an effort to prevent the rapid extermination of many species of beautiful and useful birds, whose plumage thoughtless or heartless women wear in their hats. The enforcement of the section as amended would, of course, turn upon the definition of the terms "game" and "pest." And the emasculating effect (if not the intent) of the amendment becomes obvious in the light of the fact that, according to the "Hand List of the Genera and Species of Birds," published by the trustees of the British Museum, the "game birds" of the world, exclusive of the United States, comprise 1,622 species, while the birds which, rightly or wrongly, are regarded as "pests" include 720 species. Therefore, the amendment would make available for the feather trade 2,342 species of birds, virtually all of which, the ornithologists insist, are fully entitled, for economic or for sentimental reasons, to preservation.

There seem to be the very best reasons for supporting this measure in its original form, and for opposing the amendment which would largely defeat its purpose. From a purely economic point of view, the opposition of the milliners and of the plumage importers is no more defensible or sensible than is the opposition of any manufacturer or merchant, some phase of whose business is affected by a particular clause of the new tariff. Birds' plumage is by no means the *sine qua non* of the millinery industry—that is sufficiently proved by its disappearance from women's hats when feathers are not "fashionable." And Uncle Sam will have no need of apologizing for doing what he can to protect foreign as well as native birds from slaughter promoted by a custom which is essentially barbaric.

G.

New York, June 24.

ARTURO GRAF.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: All who are interested in Italian literature or in the history and customs of the Middle Ages will read with regret the notice of the death of Arturo Graf, for above thirty years professor of Neo-Latin literatures at the University of Turin, and head of the Facuity of Letters. He was both poet and professor, a combination which, though less rare in the land of Carducci than in other countries, is particularly notable when its work is so fine and useful.

Arturo Graf was born in Athens in 1848. His father was German, his mother Italian, and he spent a large part of his youth in Rumania, where he published his first volume of verse when he was fifteen years old. He travelled much; was a student, a merchant, a lawyer, and at one time refused a political candidacy in Piedmont, where he had made his residence. He was one of the founders of the now-famous *Giornale storico della Letteratura italiana,* and a frequent contributor to many other literary and even philosophical periodicals. In 1878 his literary work earned him a professorship at the University of Turin.

Roughly speaking, his work consists of about six volumes of verse, more than six volumes of learned literary studies, besides many essays, addresses, and even a novel.

His poetry belongs to the ever-gloomy school of Leopardi. But in spite of his persistent and incorrigible pessimism, he had the force, the delicacy of vision, which made it possible for him to interpret with fresh originality his own exquisite sensitiveness. The main defects of this poetry are that it lacks what we usually call "the joy of life" and "the vehemence of passion." Graf naturally indulged in what was so aptly described by the Younger Pliny as "quaedam etiam dolendi voluptas," but in a healthy, philosophic way, and in beautifully sonorous Tuscan language. Open to the external charm of the world, he was as elegant in his voicing of the sea as D'Annunzio, as fond an interpreter of music as Fogazzaro, and all too frequently as macabre in his subjects as Poe. Some of his most charming lyrics are in the volume entitled, "Poemetti drammatici" (1905).

Graf's mind naturally ran to the fanciful, and to the truest forms of the fanciful, if I may say so, that is to say to folklore and old legends. These were his delight and his life-work. He took them as subjects for his poems and for his greatest learned studies, and in his dual capacity of creator and scholar brought out works of remarkable excellence. No student of the Middle Ages ignores the importance of his "Roma nella memoria e nelle immaginazioni del Medioevo," 2 vols. (1882-83); "Attraverso il Cinquecento" (1888); and, perhaps best known of all, his "Miti, leggende e superstizioni del Medioevo," 2 vols. (1892-93). At least two of his works are of special interest to students of English literature:

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"Prometeo nella poesia" (1879), and "Anglomania e l' influsso inglese in Italia nel Secolo XVIII" (1911).

Ultra-punctilious scholars have found in some of these books certain inaccuracies in the order or presentation of the material. But in all fairness, realizing the hugeness of this man's field of study, the fact that he was a poet more than a scientist, and remembering the constant charm and inspiration which come from his pages, we cannot help forgetting his small faults in our gratitude. Through an extremely refined and thoughtful personality the thousand whims and beliefs of the Dark Centuries are revealed to us with a charm and a breadth of learning that make us regret that there are not more such poet-professors able with their poetry to interpret the present and with their teaching the hidden significance of the past.

RUDOLPH ALTROCCHI.

Harvard University, June 24.

Literature

BAUDELAIRISM.

The Influence of Baudelaire in France and England. By G. Turquet-Milnes. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co. $2.50 net.

The Works of George Sylvester Viereck. New York: Moffat, Yard & Co. 5 vols.

In the Dark Ages, when men were still interested in the Good and the Beautiful, such French critics as held themselves in some fashion responsible for the tone of French life and literature—men like Scherer, Brunetière, and Lanson—were less concerned about Baudelaire than about Baudelairism. The master of the school, like many of his disciples, was gifted with that maleficent flow of words, that ingenuity in combining them, that sheer expressiveness, which we call literary talent. To such persons as were unable to distinguish between *Weltschmerz* and *Katzenjammer* he even seemed to possess some spiritual significance. But no critic who respected the traditional uses of noun and adjective would call Baudelaire or any of the unstrung neurotics of his tribe a "great poet." Baudelaire, as all men of sense agreed, was on the whole a nauseating spot in modern poetry, which one liked to hurry past with averted nostrils—a man significant by the extremity of his disgraceful defeat in the conflict with his times and by the ordurous nature of his revenge upon society. The only serious thing about him, as Scherer remarked, was that a self-respecting critic should have to pay any attention to him. Baudelaire became considerable, however, as the source of Baudelairism, an epidemic disease, which in France has been virulent and uncontrollable, which has to some extent altered the complexion of English poetry, and has been observed, it is said, in two or three isolated cases in America. Like other forms of pestilence, it has attacked with peculiar severity persons of depleted vitality living in unhygienic conditions—the ill-fed, the vicious, the feeble-minded, consumptives, drug-users, dipsomaniacs, and physical degenerates. It is a subject rather for sociological than for literary inquiry.

All this is the irrelevant patter of an obsolescent form of criticism. Happily, Mr. Turquet-Milnes approaches Baudelaire and the "line of his great followers" on the ground of the new, higher, "non-moral" criticism. It does not make a particle of difference to him whether the influence of Baudelaire was seraphic or crocodilian. The one point of importance for him is that the world, because of this poet and his followers, is other than it was. He assures us that he has performed the critic's part when he has listened to the "echoes of a soul (the soul of a thinker or artist) as they sound through the world." It must be said that he knows his Baudelaire, that he has pretty clearly defined the Baudelairian spirit, has traced it through a wide range of French and English writers, and has exhibited a good deal of tact in the comparison of ideas and the choice of illustrations. Though far from profound, he is tolerably precise, and he shows a French neatness and brevity in making his points. The general reader will find in this book about all that he needs to know of the singers of the gloomy violets of despair. He will derive, furthermore, from careful attention to his guide, a fresh understanding of the constituent elements of greatness in literature.

How much we owe to Baudelaire and his school becomes apparent when we recognize, as Mr. Turquet-Milnes does, that they have expressed the distinctive temper of the nineteenth century. The chief elements of this temper present in French literature before Baudelaire, and combined by him, are three: First, "The faculty of self-analysis and self-torment in love," as seen in the "Adolphe" of Benjamin Constant. Second, "Pursuit of lust, mingling with it a kind of sacrilegious pleasure (Sainte-Beuve's 'Volupté'). Pursuit of temptation at any cost, with its inevitable consequences: perversity and madness on the one hand, mysticism on the other; creation of a new language." Third, "Moral anarchy, overwhelming pessimism, and terrible solitude of the soul (A. de Vigny)." To these grandiose elements should be added the splendor of the Baudelairian *blague*, illustrated by the master's public reference to the time when he assassinated his father, and by his equally famous comparison of the taste of infants' brains to that of green walnuts. "I had done a deed, they said, which the ibis and the crocodile trembled at": so wrote poor De Quincey, reporting his delirium. It was a triumph of the Baudelairian movement to adopt the hints of delirium into the conduct of life and to celebrate as a pattern of sincerity the obscene prattle of the idiot in his glory. At last we are able to say: "He had a natural instinct for the gutter, but he was devoted to the Beautiful. He was an idiot, but he was a great poet."

Edmond Scherer, to whom we have already referred, made an earnest effort to attain this high, disinterested, non-moral vision of the critical progressives, but his attempts at readjustment were not entirely successful. There is, for example, just a suspicion of the old narrow, puritanical vision in this characterization of Baudelaire:

> When once in the arts you begin to pursue sensation, you want sensation at any price. After beauty, ugliness; after the shapely, the misshapen. . . . The terrible once exhausted, you arrive at the disgusting. You paint unclean objects. You linger over them; you wallow in them. But this rottenness itself grows rotten. This decomposition engenders a fouler decomposition, until finally there remains an indescribable something that no longer has a name in any language—and that is Baudelaire.

Now, it is the highest aspiration of Mr. Viereck to be recognized as the American Baudelaire, and at first blush we were not a little puzzled to understand why Mr. Turquet-Milnes had not hearkened to his "echo" and placed him among the immortals. In turning over the five volumes of Viereck's collected works, we seemed to detect many of the salient markings of the Baudelairian species: a failure of the ordinary inhibitory impulses, a blatant egotism, the paint-and-plaster exoticism of a Broadway café, persistent absorption in the more squalid forms of harlotry, and a screaming vanity. Here, too, were our old friends, Lilith, Nero, Sappho, a vampire or so, and a whole batch of sphinxes. They were a trifle weathered and down at the heels, like a theatrical troupe returning from a tour in the West—but what of that? Remembering that the true Baudelairian is always an originator, we sought amid the resounding "echoes" for that personal and individual note which distinguishes a genuine poet from all his predecessors; and we discovered everywhere a certain brassy vulgarity in the feeling and the tone and the strut, such as one might expect in an immigrant boy without traditions or breeding who found himself in this country for the first time treated as an equal, and such as we could not recall in the works of any previous poet.

Let us do justice to Mr. Viereck. It would not be entirely accurate to say that we had read every one of his poems in the works of Swinburne or Wilde or Symons or Baudelaire or Verlaine. Mr. Viereck has enjoyed some "cultural" advantages unknown to his forerunners;

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he has not spent some twenty years in America in vain. There is one composition here which we undertake is unique in its kind. It is called "A New England Ballad." This, as he tells us, is his reply to Puritanism, and it is a crushing one. It is a contribution. The time indicated in the ballad is a "mirthless Sabbath day." The scene is a "drab and dreary town" in Mr. Viereck's New England, where "the sleek, the oily Pharisees" dwell "in long frock coats and tall silk hats." We say Mr. Viereck's New England. The house of ill-fame on one side of the street is confronted by the Roman Catholic Church attended by the Puritans on the other. Within the church, with "windows bare like sightless eyes," stands beside a "tabernacle" a Puritan parson—"a weazened parson cursing Joy." In the midst of a Calvinistic sermon, a Roman Catholic image "upon a cross of ebony" bawls out:

> *Impious parson, on thy knee!*
> *How dare ye judge your Maker? He*
> *Am I. . . .*

In successive stanzas the figure on the ebony cross talks Viereck to the weazened parson till the latter is turned into a "gibbering madman." We do not see the possibility of denying that this is an original conception.

And yet, after all—shall we confess it?—we have been somewhat disappointed by Mr. Viereck's works. We are really a little concerned about where to place him. Obviously he does not belong in any sense of the word in American literature, and we begin to understand why Mr. Turquet-Milnes has not seen fit to mention him with the followers of Baudelaire. Let us get at the matter in the impressionistic fashion. To tell the truth, receptive as we were, the Neros and the vampires and the sphinxes left us *cold* and *unmoved*. We must regretfully admit that in all the five volumes there is hardly a shudder. This signal failure to produce *sensation* is probably due in part to the unfortunate fact that Mr. Viereck's themes were hawked about the world for so many years before they came into his hands; in part, also, to the passionless character of the poet and his puppets, who, to say nothing of love, are as devoid even of the fishiest erotic interest as the minnows in an aquarium. As a Baudelairian, Mr. Viereck is a failure. In other words, at his intensest he is only mildly disgusting. For the rest, he is only mildly soporific.

In the last analysis it is doubtless a question of style, which we are to believe is the man himself. Such of the Baudelairians as have lost the final shred of poetical substance, hope to be saved at the last day by virtue of their style. What hope is there for Mr. Viereck? Opening his "Confessions of a Barbarian" at random, we have extracted this specimen of his manner in prose:

> I was often stunned and surprised abroad. I met so many people out of my own books! I had never known that they really existed. I had never met them at Martin's. They had hidden their faces from me in America. Yet, here they were. I recognized the type. They made me feel creepy.

Some one has said that there is an "antiseptic" quality in style, and we will admit that this passage has style—the style of the First Reading Book. To illustrate Mr. Viereck's poetic manner we should not take him in an "echo," but in a passage where he has had some liberty to display the native and characteristic movement of his mind. The poem to "The Unknown Goddess" will answer our purpose. This piece turns on the fact that an unknown lady yearns for Mr. Viereck's signature and commissions a clerk in a book-store to ask him for it. This is the way in which the poet unfolds the beauty of the situation:

> The clerk, I say, drew me aside, and thus
> He spake to me: "A lady beauteous
> Your book, O Poet, deems most exquisite,
> And asks you please to write your name in it."
> "Who can it be?"
> "That may I not reveal.
> She lives in splendor; dizzy motors reel
> At her command, beside an equipage,
> And oh! her town-house is a queen's ménage!"

We may be mistaken about the quality of this passage. There are two lines at least, the first and the fourth, with a somewhat unusual tonal effect. And yet we feel bound to say that the passage as a whole impresses us as poetically unsatisfactory. In the case of the "New England Ballad" one forgot the insipid sauciness of the words ascribed to the divine image in a whimsical sense of wonder whether the divine mercy itself could pardon the melodramatic balderdash of the style. In the bit of prose quoted above, one forgets to attend to Mr. Viereck's surprise abroad in amused contemplation of the infantile staccato of his sentences. In the case of "The Unknown Goddess" one forgets the lady with the equipage and the ménage in the perplexing question whether that note of somewhat brassy vulgarity which is Mr. Viereck's special contribution to poetry is not, as a matter of fact, entirely destructive of poetry. Taking it all in all, we are inclined to encourage Mr. Viereck in his feeling that he had better abandon poetry for business.

CURRENT FICTION.

The Scarlet Rider. By Bertha Runkle. New York: The Century Co.

The scene is the Isle of Wight, in the time of the American Revolution. The hero is Dirck Scott, an American privateersman, who, captured by a British officer, has bashed that officer's head, jumped overboard, and landed on the Isle. He finds shelter in the dwelling of Lord Yarracombe, is discovered in hiding by the fair Miss Lettice Yarracombe, and she agrees, on general principles (what heroine could do less?), to help him escape to France. A highwayman, known as the Scarlet Rider, is harrying the near counties of England. He is a perfect gentleman of the road, who operates by the Robin Hood code, robbing only the rich and the stingy, so that Miss Lettice does not shrink from the fancy that her protégé is he. Pending his escape, he becomes a footman at Yarracombe. Then arrives the elegant cousin whom Lettice is to marry. When we say that he is none other than the officer of the bashed head, and that the Scarlet Rider is really Miss Lettice's (why not Lady Lettice's?) father, Lord Yarracombe, we have given the prospective reader quite all the hints that he will desire as to the nature of the yarn. Dirck Scott is as improbably reckless and as impossibly chivalrous as the most exacting schoolboy could wish him to be. The dialogue is cast in the accepted jargon of historical romance. There is ample store of verbal misunderstandings and unexpected encounters, love-making and sword-play. Lord Yarracombe is debonair even in murder; and the wonderful mare which assists his exploits as the Scarlet Rider is not inferior to her kind. He conveniently gets his deserts in the last chapter, and Miss Lettice is free to be carried off under the nose of the British officer who has almost won her, by our esteemed compatriot, ex-privateer and ex-footman. In short, the tale is precisely adapted for those readers of all ages who like elaborate nonsense of the "costume" variety.

The Stain. By Forrest Halsey. Chicago: F. G. Browne & Co.

The villain is a corrupt judge; the hero a district attorney; the heroine a maiden of matchless beauty and blameless intent, but an intermittent kleptomaniac. The criminal impulse, which always possesses her in moments of physical or nervous exhaustion, she believes is inherited: she is sure that her father must have been a thief, though she does not know who he was. She leaves her adopted parents because she fears to disgrace them, and is presently a stenographer in the attorney's office. He falls in love with her, and, for his sake, she feels that she must again "move on." But on the eve of her flight, which is also the eve of a great contest between the attorney and the corrupt judge, her mania seizes her, and she is arrested for shoplifting. Attorney promptly marries maiden, and defends her before corrupt judge, who turns out to be her father. The discarded mother

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figures humbly in the action, as well as a son of the judge's prosperous years, who also inherits the stain. But the judge is a thief on a big scale, hand in glove with the boss who rules the city and the State. He looks forward to the Governorship as the supreme prize of his crafty career. Therefore he must carry things with a strong hand: only death, sudden death, while in the act of pronouncing his verdict, keeps him from sending his daughter to prison. There is material in the story for an emotional play, with many tense moments. As a story it is well told, though too obviously constructed.

His Love Story. By Marie Van Vorst. Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill Co.

When a handsome young French count, who is also a captain in the cavalry, meets an American Miss Julia, his love story naturally begins: hers also. If he is poor, however, his sense of honor prohibits attentions beyond a certain point. When he is ordered to the front there is nothing for him to do but to depart speechless, leaving his dog in Miss Julia's hands. Such a count's dog naturally cannot live without him, and follows him to Algiers by the next boat. Such a dog, when his master is wounded and dying in the desert, infallibly trails him and brings help. Such a Miss Julia, when news comes of the captain's death, refuses to believe the worst, and sets out for Algiers. Such a generous and devoted trio as the count, the Miss Julia, and the dog are bound to be reunited, to part no more. But in setting down these rather obvious incidents, the present chronicler has employed more skill and delicacy than would be expected from the material, has produced a pretty and graceful story—a trifle excellently done.

Love's Soldier. By Olive Christian Mackirdy. New York: Cassell & Co.

This conquering hero was a London bank clerk, who loved an American banker's daughter. His career makes strange reading. It is the kind of story in which the Scotch author of an international best-seller is regarded as the best possible expert to direct the tottering fortunes of a New York bank; in which, just when the London branch of the business needs reinforcement, the beautiful waif adopted by the literary bank clerk regains an Irish father rolling in South American wealth; in which, towards the end, the now high and mighty bank clerk refuses a seat in Parliament, but after urging will accept a dukedom, whereupon the King confidentially arranges the conferring of the title as a nice little wedding surprise for the American bride. This application of the logic of the nursery saga to the possibilities of business "romance," must have been meant as a fairy-tale for the very young office-boy—a mistaken kindness, from which a taste formed upon detective literature is sure to save him.

THE TRUE JUSTICE.

The Old Law and the New Order. By George W. Alger. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co. $1.25 net.

The title does not fit all of the essays which have been brought together in this volume, but appears to have been suggested by the topics discussed in the second and fourth of the series. In these, headed, respectively, "Courts and Legislative Freedom" and "The State as Employer," Mr. Alger assumes that the old law is based upon the individualistic theory of society, whereas the new order accepts the gospel of collectivism. The old law rarely interferes with the freedom of contract, deeming the individual quite capable of making his own bargains. The new order is continually penalizing freedom of contract, upon the theory that large classes of individuals are wholly incapable of bargaining wisely or advantageously. Under the old law, the hours of labor and the rate of wages were fixed by the agreement of employer and employed. The new order insists that the state shall regulate the hours of labor, the rate of wages, the time and the medium of payment. Legislation, enacted in accordance with such demands, has been held unconstitutional, and thus annulled by courts which have tested it by the rules of the old law. Hence the criticism of courts and the fierce clamor for the recall of judges which have filled the air of late.

One who listens to these noisy attacks is apt to think that judges do little else but declare progressive legislation unconstitutional and flout litigants who bring suits founded upon the principles of the new order. If, however, he investigates matters patiently he discovers that only a small proportion of litigated cases falls within these classes. The great body of law-suits involve no questions of the new order, but raise issues which both plaintiff and defendant are quite content to have decided in accordance with the rules of the old law. Probably no tribunal enjoys a higher reputation for judicial orthodoxy than the New York Court of Appeals. Certainly none has been subjected to greater criticism by the disciples of the new order. And yet, in the latest bound volume of its reports, only four out of nearly seventy decisions involve progressive doctrines. The remainder deal with controversies for the determination of which the rules of the old law were deemed fully adequate by all the litigants.

Mr. Alger, while a progressive, in the true sense of that much-abused term, is not a clamorer against the courts nor their hostile critic. In fact, he asserts that reactionary decisions "are few and far between." He recognizes the fact that the common law, as administered by our courts, is constantly adjusting itself to new social and economic conditions. Even the most critical portions of his essays bear testimony to the willingness of courts, as a body, to weave the doctrines of the new order into the fabric of the old law, whenever they accord with the needs of society and are not under the ban of constitutional prohibitions. In his own words:

> The notion that the courts form an adamantine barrier to progress is false. They do not bow to every fitful breath of change. Some judges move more slowly than others, to be sure, in adapting the law to the settled will of the people. But to their will they do conform.

It is true that Mr. Alger expresses the opinion that most of the statutes which the courts of our time are declaring unconstitutional involve problems of an economic, social, and industrial character; while the unconstitutional statutes of a century ago presented political issues. Undoubtedly, many of Marshall's great opinions were concerned with political questions, such as the relations of the States to the Union and the exact boundaries of executive, legislative, and judicial authority. But the statutes whose judicial annulment aroused the bitterest controversies, in the early years of the republic, were enacted in response to economic, social, and industrial agitation. One of the earliest of this class, a Rhode Island law, authorized the emission of paper money, made it a criminal offence for any one to refuse to take this money at its face value in a business transaction, and provided for the trial of a criminal of this sort by special courts without a jury. John Weeden, a butcher, not only refused to receive such money at its face value, but, when prosecuted criminally, insisted that the law was unconstitutional, and, therefore, void, because it denied him the right of trial by jury. His view was sustained by the Superior Court, whose members were soon summoned before the General Assembly to explain their conduct. The judges insisted that they were answerable for misconduct only in formal proceedings of impeachment. These were not instituted; but, as the judges were elected annually by the General Assembly, that body was able to displace them a few months later by officials whose social and economic views were in accord with those prevalent in the State.

Another example is afforded by the "Stay laws" of Kentucky, which provided that unless a judgment creditor should endorse on his execution, his willingness to take the paper money of State banks at its face value, in dis-

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charge of his claim, the debtor should have two years in which to pay it without interest. A decision of the Kentucky Court of Appeals declaring the legislation void because violating the "obligation of contracts" clause of the Federal Constitution precipitated a long and bitter conflict between the adherents of the old law and the champions of the new order. During its progress an attempt was made to legislate the old court out of existence; and for a time Kentucky had two Courts of Appeal. But the old law and the old court triumphed in the State elections of 1826, while the new order was ignominiously defeated in its attempt to recall judges and judicial decisions.

Both in Kentucky and Rhode Island the statutes, annulled by the courts, were enacted in the belief that they were promotive of social justice. In each case they expressed the will of a clear majority of the people. In each case the will of the people was defeated by judges who interpreted Constitutional prohibitions according to the canons of the old law. In the Bull Moose terminology of to-day, they were reactionaries. And yet, no one can doubt that in each case it was the judge, deciding in accordance with the old law and not in accordance with the social, economic, and industrial philosophy of the moment, who deserved well of the republic. He was charged, as courts are charged to-day, with a disposition to defeat the will of the people as expressed by their chosen representatives in the Legislature. Undoubtedly, he had that disposition; but it was because he believed that his oath of office required him to defeat the popular will of the moment when it ran counter to a clearly expressed rule of either the Federal or State Constitution. Such rules were formulated for the very purpose of preventing the people from violating certain cardinal principles of justice, during periods of excitement, and of giving time for a sober second thought.

The Formation of the Alphabet. By W. M. Flinders Petrie. Studies Series III of the British School of Archæology in Egypt. London: Macmillan (and Quaritch), 1912. 5s.

Dr. Petrie here gathers together from many sources in the Mediterranean region some sixty alphabetic signs that recent discoveries have made known to us, and essays to show the process by which our present alphabet, or, rather, its Greek progenitor, took selective shape and order.

The author, for conclusive reasons, rejects the old theory of a Phœnician (and ultimate Egyptian) origin of the alphabet. We are not to think of it as a system invented by a single individual or a single tribe in a somewhat advanced stage of civilization, and then borrowed by other tribes from it:

> On the contrary, it appears that a wide body of signs had been gradually brought into use in primitive times for various purposes. These were interchanged by trade, and spread from land to land, until the less known and less useful signs were ousted by those in more general acceptance. Lastly, a couple of dozen signs triumphed; these became common property to a group of trading communities, while the local survivals of other forms were gradually extinguished in isolated seclusion.

Of the Runic alphabet, which has recently been brought under fresh notice, Dr. Flinders Petrie says that it must be viewed as "a branch of the Mediterranean alphabets much older than the formation of the Greek and Latin forms, which at a later date barred it off from further communication southward. Whatever it has in common with Greek and Latin letters, it has merely in common with other alphabets as well."

The order of the letters in the alphabet is that as read from a primitive hornbook, of which a reproduction is given. The derivative Greek form, though it lacked certain letters, and had interpolated certain others, will be more intelligible to the general reader, as nearer to the Latin, and therefore to our own form. In this Greek hornbook the letters were arranged on the main tablet in four vertical columns perpendicular to the handle. The columns were originally of six characters each, but the Greek hornbook had discarded as needless the primitive characters at the bottom of all but the first column, as well as the third character in columns two and four. The first column showed the vowels A, E, I, O, Υ, Ω; the second, the labials B, F (third wanting), Π, Φ (sixth wanting); the third, the gutturals Γ, H, K, Q, X (sixth wanting); the fourth, the dentals Δ, Θ (third wanting), Τ, Ψ (sixth wanting). Then three later "liquids," Λ, M, N, were added in a single horizontal line on the flat handle of the hornbook, thus being opposite the middle of the columns on the tablet, and perpendicular to their direction. And, finally, the Greek, for its own needs, interpolated a few other signs, Z between the second and third columns opposite F and H, respectively; P and S together between the third and fourth columns opposite Q and T, respectively, and Ξ at the very extremity of the handle, next beyond N. Thus the hornbook was complete. But in learning the letters one naturally read them, not in the vertical columns, but in horizontal ranks, from left to right (Λ M N Ξ falling into line in the middle, after K), and thus the alphabetical order was established, which, with the few changes that belong to the history of the Latin tongue, and with the later differentiations of I and J, and of U and V, and the addition in its logical place of W, we still follow. Some problems, however, it is plain to see, are here unanswered, and the author acknowledges the patent fact.

The original home of the primitive hornbook, which was the immediate ancestor of that which we have described, Dr. Flinders Petrie is inclined to find in northern Syria, chiefly on account of the disregard of sibilants in the primitive system, and the use of aphabetic signs as numeral symbols, both of which characteristics are peculiar to that region.

Notes

Among the announcements of Henry Holt & Co. are "The Mastery of Grief," by Bolton Hall, and Miss Marjorie Patterson's "Dust of the Road," a novel of English theatrical life.

An authorized edition of the complete works of Arthur Schnitzler is in preparation by Richard Badger. Three volumes are already in the press for immediate publication, and the others will follow in rapid succession.

"The Inhumanity of Socialism" is the title finally chosen by Edward F. Adams for a book which Paul Elder & Co. will shortly publish.

In "The Story of California," announced by McClurg, Henry K. Norton begins with the summer of 1542 when Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo first set foot on the shore of San Diego Bay.

"The Poems of Sir Thomas Wiat," edited by A. K. Forwell from the MSS, with variants, commentary, and facsimile reproductions, will be issued in the autumn by the University of London Press.

Sir Sidney Lee has been called by London University to fill the chair in English.

The Oxford Church Bible Commentary, it is announced, is to give a completely new translation of the Old Testament, the New Testament, and the more important books of the Apocrypha. "The Book of Wisdom" (Macmillan), by the Rev. A. T. S. Goodrick, gives in considerable detail the apparatus for the criticism of this interesting Apocryphal work. The opinions of former commentators are examined, questions of date, design, and unity are discussed at length, and the views of the editor are embodied in footnotes, additional notes, and appendices. There are great differences among critics concerning the exegesis of the work, and Mr. Goodrick's conclusions will not all be generally accepted, but the volume supplies much information, it is written in a good spirit, and it will prove useful both to specialists and to the general reader.

In *Petermann's Mitteilungen* for May is the conclusion of the ethnographic description of the Balkan peoples by Professor Cvijic of Belgrade, in which he dwells especially upon their wanderings and assimilation and on the influence of Islamism. Dr. T. Herzog gives an account, with illustrations, of the Bolivian Cordillera, and in the military department Prof. A. Mar-

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cuse, of Berlin, discusses the difficult problem of the navigation of an airship in a dense mist. Interesting, as showing the wide range of educational facilities in Germany, is the list of subjects to be studied by the pupils of seventeen high schools in the summer semester of this year, ranging from African religions and the history of the United States to the fundamental principles of business.

"Burdett's Hospitals and Charities" for 1913 comes to us from the London publisher, the Scientific Press Limited. The usual voluminous information is given, for this country as well as for Great Britain and her colonies. The work well deserves its sub-title, "The Year Book of Philanthropy and the Hospital Annual." The author, Sir Henry Burdett, repeats his plea that the fiscal year for all hospitals should end December 31, so that comparison of resources might be made easier.

Francis McCullagh's lurid account of "Italy's War for a Desert," published in London last year and reviewed by us July 4, 1912, has now been brought out in this country by F. G. Browne & Company, of Chicago.

Noel Buxton's "With the Bulgarian Staff" (Macmillan) is a record of hospital work with the armies of Thrace. As a representative of the English Red Cross contingent and as an old friend of Macedonian freedom for which he has done valuable service through the Balkan Committee, Mr. Buxton enjoyed the privilege of riding with the Bulgarian General Staff in the wake of the victorious armies from Kirk-Kilisseh to Tchatalja. He is sufficiently explicit in depicting the heavy cost of war in loss of life and human suffering, but his hospital sketches, while inevitably painful, make no attempt at horror for its own sake. His tone shows the moderation that comes from true sympathy and knowledge; he is savage only when he speaks of Turkish rule. There, he can see nothing but a record of massacre, plunder, and general bestiality. Conceding that the Balkan war was necessary, he is still an opponent of war. The war was necessary because one swift operation to rid the Balkans of a régime which by the slower processes of massacre was exacting a higher death toll than war exacts, had become inevitable. And yet the war could have been avoided if the Powers had done their duty, even as late as five years ago, by establishing self-government in Macedonia. With the familiar argument that war is a training school of national character and the field for the display of the manly virtues, he has no sympathy. How was it, he asks, that the Bulgarian people during centuries of subjection retained the manhood which spoke out so emphatically when the need arose? Of the actual course of the war it is Mr. Buxton's opinion that the Turkish downfall came not at Lule Burgas nor even at Kirk-Kilisseh, but in the very first days' fighting. Even before Kirk-Kilisseh there was a battle fought near the Bulgarian frontier of which the world knows almost nothing. The more one reads of Bulgarian operations in Thrace the more it is apparent that only a very partial knowledge of what really happened has reached us through the newspaper correspondents.

In two ways, at least, the title of B. Granville Barker's "The Passing of the Turkish Empire in Europe" (Lippincott) is misleading. The book does not deal with the late war in the Balkans, to which there is only the very slightest reference. Neither is it a methodical history of the Ottoman Empire up to recent events. What Mr. Barker has written is a lengthy travel book in which personal experiences and description are supplemented in the approved style by historical reminiscence. Of the latter there is altogether too much, especially as the historical narrative follows no systematic course, but leaps backward and forward through the ages in a highly disconcerting manner. When one has overcome the prejudice created by a mischosen title and a pretentious manner, the reader will find much entertaining matter in Mr. Barker's account of Turkish scenes and character. His pictures, for the most part pen-and-ink sketches of his own, are exceptionally good.

The club topsail, or, as the English say, jackyard topsail-jackyarder, is a kite in no wise entitled to the pride of good ancestry, according to R. Heckstall Smith and Capt. Du Boulay, authors of "The Complete Yachtsman" (Outing Publishing Company). It was born, not of the needs of the sailorman, but was "devised, or rather popularized, by racing men in America when the sail plan was measured in such a manner that one could get an additional bit of untaxed sail if the topsail extended beyond the gaff. . . . It was originally, thus, something of a rule-cheater." Whether the authors speak advisedly as to American responsibility or not is quite beyond our province to decide; at all events, it is a very useful stretch of canvas, and is used by the English and Germans, as by us. The assertion that cruising men, however, should fight shy of it is very well taken; they should. As for the rest, the book is complete, and justifies its title; it is the most comprehensive, most accurate yachting symposium yet placed between covers. Nothing is neglected, nothing overlooked. There are chapters on rudimentary work in sailing which convey valuable information to all beginners, together with chapters on more advanced points which will interest a yachtsman, however well versed in the sport he may be. The manner of building a boat is set forth in ample detail, as well as the handling of it when built. Motor-boating, its rules, and its general aspects receive adequate attention. In short, this is a volume to which the youngster setting forth in his first catboat, as well as the tried yachtsman, may give his days and nights with great benefit.

A number of excellent qualities and one serious defect are made manifest in the first two volumes of "The Everyman Encyclopædia" (Dutton), an undertaking which is to be completed in twelve volumes. Selling at the regular Everyman price of thirty-five cents per volume, it is altogether one of the most accessible works of reference on the market. There are probably half a million words to the volume. The contents have obviously been planned with an eye to the needs of the ordinary reader. Titles like Abbreviations, Academies, and other lists to which one frequently turns for a missing name or word are exceptionally full. The useful arts are well represented, as for example, Bookbinding with 5 pages. Science and technology show well condensed articles on Astronomy, 10 pages; Biology, 12 pages; Aeronautics, 6 pages; Accumulator, 1,500 words, etc. Particular attention is given to Law. But here is where serious objection may be raised. The law is all British law and the encyclopædia as a whole a British work with insufficient concession to an American public. In a long article on Army there are two pages devoted to the history of the British army, but the United States is nowhere mentioned. American biography suffers very badly. To John Adams are devoted just 110 words, of which 40 are bibliography. This is considerably less than the space given to Abbas Pasha, of Egypt, or the late Chief Rabbi Adler. If the Encyclopædia is to have a sale in this country commensurate with its general merits a fair amount of revision is necessary.

In "Highways and Byways of the Rocky Mountains" and "Highways and Byways of the Great Lakes" (Macmillan), Clifton Johnson makes two valuable additions to a series of sectional guide-books which now covers all but the New England and Middle Atlantic States. The chief purpose of the series being to treat of country life, especially of the picturesque and the typically rustic, it will be seen that the present volumes exploit fields peculiarly rich in incident and color. Page after page is filled with pleasantly garrulous conversation with farmers, rivermen, miners, and woodsmen from Pennsylvania to New Mexico, and with descriptions of peregrinations through wonderful stretches of scenery. There are interludes in both volumes, too, of more formal exposition, as in the chapters devoted to the copper country, the Straits of Mackinac, an Illinois valley, the Texas oil fields, Pueblo life in New Mexico, and life in a Mormon village. The numerous illustrations, like much of the text, are mere snapshots of wayside experiences. The notes appended to each chapter give information concerning automobile routes and many facts and suggestions to tourists in general.

"Oblivion has scattered her poppy effectively enough over the name of Aurelian Townshend, who is now but a shadowy figure dimly discerned in the background of that bustling London of the early Stuarts and the Civil Wars. Yet in his day he walked with wits and poets, and, for certain touches of rareness here and there in his song, it becomes an act of piety to piece together what is known of him into a more complete account than has before been attempted, and to let it stand as a preface to this belated gathering of his scanty harvest." So Mr. E. K. Chambers opens the introduction to his edition of "Aurelian Townshend's Poems and Masks," in the Tudor and Stuart Library printed at the Clarendon Press from type made in the old matrices. The "act of piety" Mr. Chambers has made also a work of fine scholarship. Townshend, indeed, after all the editor's research, remains but a dim figure, but his family connections have been untangled and a surer individuality has been given him. As for the handful of poems, of certain and doubtful authorship, their ingathering has meant a considerable turning over of old song-books and manuscript anthologies. They add a little to that body of Stuart poetry,

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constantly growing by the accretion of reprints, which as a whole is curiously amateurish in style, but is set off by occasional flashes of poignant beauty. About the best thing of Townshend's is his "Pure Simple Love," but this is too long to quote. As a fair specimen of his craft we choose the little "Youth and Beauty," taken from the "Ayres and Dialogues" (1653) of H. Lawes, and already reprinted by W. Beloe in his "Anecdotes of Literature" (1812):

Thou art so fair, and yong withall,
Thou kindl'st yong desires in me,
Restoreing life to leaves that fall,
And sight to Eyes that hardly see
Halfe those fresh Beauties bloom in thee.

Those, under sev'rall Hearbs and Flowr's
Disguis'd, were all *Medea* gave
When she recal'd Times flying howrs,
And aged *Æson* from his grave,
For Beauty can both kill and save.

Youth it enflames, but age it cheers,
I would go back, but not return
To twenty, but to twice those yeers;
Not blaze, but ever constant burn,
For fear my Cradle prove my Urn.

A book from the Clarendon Press, similar in general appearance to the Tudor and Stuart Library, but printed in modern types, is the "Trecentale Bodleianum," which, as the sub-title explains, is "a memorial volume for the three hundredth anniversary of the public funeral of Sir Thomas Bodley, March 29, 1613." It contains Bodley's autobiography, the first draft of his statutes for the Library, extracts from his will relating to the Library, two funeral orations in Latin, besides other pertinent matter.

Any book on government which expressed appreciation for courtesies extended by "Mr. Charles F. Murphy, head of the Tammany organization in New York city," and by other authorities only less notable, ought to be a sure guide to the subject; and, indeed, the material in Prof. P. Orman Ray's "Introduction to Political Parties and Practical Politics" (Scribner) is well selected. It is also written in a clear, brisk, textbook style. Exception will be taken by many students in this field to the author's rosy view of direct legislation as a remedy for the evils of our legislative system. In this part of his book he almost becomes an advocate, backing up his opinions with quotations from other writers who think as he does, instead of presenting the considerations on both sides, giving the results of the experiment as far as it has had certain results, and leaving the matter there. A more sweeping criticism is that of his arrangement. Superficially, a four-fold division into "Present-Day National Parties," "Nominating Methods," "Campaigns and Elections," and "The Party in Power" may seem logical, as following the chronological order of political events in the life of a party. But the consequences of this distribution of material are not entirely happy. The student is nearly three-fourths of the way through the book before he comes upon Machines and Bosses, this chapter having been placed in Part IV. Yet how much of an understanding of the subject of Part II, "Nominating Methods," or of Part III, "Campaigns and Elections," will he have without it? Especially commendable is its attention to the forms of the ballot and to the comparatively neglected topic of the politics of legislative bodies.

The composite character of English speech is strikingly illustrated by the double section of the "Oxford English Dictionary" *Sniggle-Sorrow*, prepared by W. A. Craigie (Frowde). Among the 3084 words listed there are numerous snippy English monosyllables in *Sn*—such as *snore, snort, snuff;* Dutch *snow,* a small sailing vessel; Scandinavian *snipe* and *snub;* Gaelic *sonsy,* happy epithet for a lass; French *sojourn* and *soirée,* of which the first record is from Lady Granville's Letters, 1820; Italian *solo* and *soprano;* Latin *socialism, soliloquy,* and *solitary;* Greek *solecism* and *sophist;* Oriental *sofa* and *sophy.* The ancient anarchy in spelling into which some of us are again so merrily plunging is recalled by the word *soldier,* which has appeared in at least seventy different forms. Dilettante Walpole gets the credit for introducing in 1760 the rich romantic adjective *sombre,* indispensable in characterizing the reflections of the Byronic and pre-Byronic heroes. To the Romanticists and to Scott in particular is due the revival of *sooth,* which seems almost abruptly to have lapsed from use in the middle of the seventeenth century. The sense development of the verb *soothe* offers a peculiar surprise to any one who has associated *soothing* too closely with a certain sovereign syrup for ululant infants. *Soothe* is good old Anglo-Saxon for *verify,* and, indeed, is used in that sense as late as the sixteenth century, *e. g.,* "being inquisitive of these matters, I could find no one of them *soothed* by such persons upon whose relation I am disposed to venture." *Soothe,* however, moves towards its modern meaning when Warner writes in 1596, "Amen, I sooth'd no lye," and Lane in 1616, "to heere what lies they *soothe.*" The next step is indicated in Massinger, 1623, "Sooth me in all I say. There's a main end in it." And so by little and little *soothe* suffers its declension from verifying to corroborating, to backing up, to encouraging, to praising, to pacifying, and to drugging.

Another interesting sense-history is that of the word *snob,* a term of obscure origin, in its earliest use, in 1781, meaning a shoemaker or cobbler. In its second stage it is Cambridge slang for "any one not a gownsman, a townsman"—the equivalent of "mucker" in Cambridge, Mass. Next in 1831 it is generalized to include any persons "belonging to the ordinary or lower classes of society." The classical English sense is fixed by Thackeray's "Book of Snobs," 1848, where it means "one who meanly or vulgarly admires and seeks to imitate, or associate with, those of superior rank or wealth; one who wishes to be regarded as a person of social importance." Now, there is a distinction between the English and the American use of *snob,* which is neither defined nor illustrated in the Oxford nor in our own Webster's Dictionary—a distinction due to the influence of aristocratic as compared with democratic traditions. In an American University town, for example, *snob* is not applied by gownsmen to townsmen, but by townsmen to gownsmen. In American social circles it may occasionally be applied to vulgar "climbers," but it is much more likely to be applied by "climbers" to inaccessible members of the "inner circle"; a snob is not one who seeks to associate with those of superior rank or wealth or intelligence, but one who keeps aloof from those of inferior rank or wealth. In other words, an English snob is a man who falls short of the perfect aristocrat through a taint of democratic vulgarity, whereas an American snob is a man who falls short of the perfect democrat through a taint of aristocratic exclusiveness.

The purpose of "Home Life in Russia" (Macmillan), by A. S. Rappoport, is, apparently, to give a casual reader an impression of the manners, customs, and ways of thought that distinguish the Russian people from their western neighbors. In this the book resembles the "Russian Life in Town and Country" of F. H. E. Palmer, to which, however, it is by no means equal in merit. Though Dr. Rappoport gives excellent and entertaining information, he sometimes presents it in a form unintelligible to persons not previously acquainted with Russian affairs; thus he continually uses the terms Great Russian and Little Russian, but never explains their meaning. His incoherent style, and in particular his continual neglect of paragraph structure, make reading wearisome. Important mistakes occur; for example, the Carnival discussed on pages 37-39 is the same festival as the Butter Week of pages 52-56. This Butter Week does not precede Easter, as is stated on pages 52, 53, but Lent; this odd slip leads the author to repeat a description of a popular custom of which he has already written (p. 38). The statistics of attendance at the Russian universities are given for the year 1901 (p. 204), though later figures are readily ascertainable. The system of transliterating Russian words is more German than English, and is made worse by frequent misprints; "les monshires c'est tout" (p. 7) is evidently meant for "les moushiks [muzhiks] c'est tout." The best feature of the volume is its admirable illustrations, prepared from photographs either of actual scenes or of paintings by Russian artists.

"History as Past Ethics" (Ginn), by P. V. N. Myers, is intended to complete "the series of historical text books which I began more than twenty years ago." The sub-title is "An Introduction to the History of Morals"; and the book conveys briefly what the author conceives to be the chief characteristics of the ethical and moral ideals of various Oriental peoples, of the Greeks and Romans, and of Christian Europe in the different stages of its history. Mr. Myers has read many books, and presents in clear and simple language much information which, as information, it would not be amiss for high-school pupils to acquire in connection with their courses in history. But besides presenting this information, he has made an attempt to illustrate by means of it a theory of moral progress which in turn becomes the basis for a philosophy of history. The theoretical part cannot be accounted original, nor very convincing; it is, indeed, not quite consistent, a circumstance which seems to arise from the fact that Mr. Myers has taken, for his purpose, ideas from many sources which do not always fit neatly together. He maintains, for example, that neither intellectual advance, as Buckle thought, nor economic conditions, as Marx would have us believe, nor religion,

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as churchmen insist, is the directing force in history; moral progress, on the contrary, constitutes "the very essence of the historic movement." But then it turns out that moral progress is itself dependent precisely upon intellectual advance, economic conditions, religion, and so on. This is much like saying that history is determined by moral progress, and moral progress by history. Well, it is not given to all to bend the bow of Ulysses! In spite of his theorizing, Mr. Myers's book will doubtless have its uses.

Anson Phelps Stokes, who for nearly half a century had been prominent in the mercantile and financial life of New York city, died on Saturday, aged seventy-five. He was the author of "Joint-Metallism," which went through five editions, and of two books of travel, "Cruising in the West Indies" and "Cruising in the Caribbean with a Camera."

Science

In Beaver World. By Enos A. Mills. With illustrations from photographs by the Author. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co. $1.75.

Except a few good notes in magazine articles, chiefly valuable for their photographic illustrations, nothing of much account has been published about the beaver since the classic book by Lewis H. Morgan, issued in 1865. Mr. Mills has made his home since boyhood in the Rocky Mountains, winter and summer, yet has found time to ramble all over the continent, everywhere giving "studious attention" to the beaver. "At any time during the past twenty-five years," he explains, "I could go from my cabin on the slope of Long's Peak, Colorado, to a number of colonies within fifteen minutes. . . . One autumn my entire time was spent in making observations and watching the activities of beaver in fourteen colonies. Sixty-four days in succession I visited these colonies, three of them twice daily. These daily investigations enabled me to see the preparations for winter from beginning to end. They also enabled me to understand details which with infrequent visits I could not even have discovered."

Knowing these prefatory statements to be true, the reader will expect much novelty and minuteness of information, and he will not be disappointed. Moreover, he will be pleased to find the story told in terse, straightforward English, brightened by sympathetic sentiment, yet free from rhapsody or flighty hypothesis. There is some repetition, because several of the chapters have been previously used as separate articles; but an excellent index corrects this fault of orderly book-making.

The text of the book, so to speak, is the history of a colony of beavers which existed high up on Long's Peak, as mentioned. Their work and play, how they obtained food, were housed, and solved the problem of winter; how they repaired accidents and invented new ways of doing things to meet emergencies; and how, incidentally, they served the world by checking floods and storing water, are related with interesting details and exhibited in photographs. Interwoven with this are notes of comparative observations made elsewhere, sometimes corroborative, often at variance, manifesting the individuality of colonies as well as of single workers in adaptation to varying circumstances.

The form and material of the beaver's house are familiar, but several widely accepted statements in regard to its structure seem less certain in the light of Mr. Mills's experience. The construction of a typical "lodge" in the Rocky Mountains is thus outlined:

> Most beaver houses stand in a pond, though a number are built on the shore and partly in the water, and still others on the bank a few feet away from the water. . . . Houses that are built in a pond usually stand in three or four feet of water. The foundation is laid on the bottom of the pond, of the size intended for the house, and built up a solid mass to a few inches above water-level, . . . forming the floor of the low-vaulted room which is enclosed by the thick house-walls. In building the house the beaver provides a temporary support for the combined roof and walls by piling in the centre of the floor a two-foot mound of mud. Over this is placed a somewhat flattened teepee- or cone-shaped frame of sticks and small poles. These stand on the outer part of the foundation and lean inward with upper ends meeting against and above the temporary support. The beaver then cover this framework with two or three feet of mud, brush, and turf, and thus make the walls and the roof of the house. When the outer part of the house is completed, they dig an inclined passageway from the bottom of the pond up through the foundation, into the irregular space left between the supporting pile of mud and the walls. And of this space they shape a room, by clawing out the temporary support and gnawing off the intruding sticks. This represents the most highly developed type of beaver house.

The reviewer does not know where else he could find so detailed an account of beaver architecture as this; and many other revelations of the work and psychology of the animal are equally original in statement.

Prof. Charles K. Leith is bringing out, through Holt, a small volume on structural geology.

The little manual, "Elementary Geography of North and Central America and the West Indies," by F. D. Herbertson, is Volume V in the Oxford series (Frowde). It is a very condensed description, but is readable and well illustrated.

Recent anxiety over the national meat supply makes timely the appearance of "Sheep Farming," written chiefly by the late John A. Craig, and published in Macmillan's Rural Science series. When legislators propose to prohibit the killing of calves for veal, in order to conserve the beef supply, and when statisticians are calculating the diminution in the numbers of market lambs, all books which point the way to the raising of meat on our farms are of especial value. "Sheep Farming," recognizing that the days of the open range are going, if not gone, encourages and explains the keeping of sheep on the ordinary homestead farm. The book, three chapters of which are by H. P. Miller, thoroughly discusses farm equipment, the choice of breeds, the formation and management of a flock, and the preparation of sheep for exhibition. The illustrations are very satisfactory, especially the series showing a sheep-shearing expert at work.

Drama and Music

"In the Vanguard" (Macmillan), a three-act play by Mrs. Katrina Trask, is animated by such high purpose and contains so much sound philosophy that it is a pity its enthusiasm was not tempered by discretion—by a little clearer recognition of the fact that this perverse and headstrong world is not yet ripe for government by Utopian principles. With a little larger admixture of worldly wisdom it might have been made much more effective. The theme of it is the folly, wickednesss, and wastefulness of war, and it is fortified by all the usual arguments, most of which, in theory at least, are entirely impregnable. To discuss them would be to provoke a futile controversy. Mrs. Trask's hero resigns a lucrative legal position and turns soldier for the sake of the heroine, Elsa, who vows that she will only wed a hero. In war he distinguishes himself greatly, winning glory and rapid promotion, but after a bloody battle he comes across a dying enemy, smitten with remorseful despair, who succeeds in convincing him that each individual combatant must share the collective responsibility for all the lives destroyed in conflict, and that he himself is therefore many thousands of times a murderer. So he throws up his commission, and his hopes in love, preferring to endure contumely rather than engage further in impious bloodshed. But, fortunately for him, a rich humanitarian, a believer in the philosophy and morals of Christ, although a bitter opponent of much clerical teaching and dogma, has, in the meanwhile, shown Elsa the superiority of spiritual to merely physical courage, and she is ready to welcome the returned soldier. Thus virtue triumphs after all, and is made supremely comfortable by the wealthy benefactor, who finds the young man a profitable and honorable job. It is a pretty, sentimental story, written in places with no little vigor and eloquence, but it is not well suited, either in expression or form, for stage representation.

Gabriele d'Annunzio's new play, "La Pisanelle, ou la Mort parfumée," was produced a fortnight ago at the Châtelet Théâtre in Paris. The action, we read in a notice in the London *Times*, takes place in Cyprus, when young Huguet de Lusignan ruled over an accursed island. According to prophecy, it would be delivered from pestilence

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by the advent of a saint who would come in rags and in bonds on the poop of a corsair's felucca. Presently there runs into the port of Famagusta a felucca laden with the booty of a sea raid, and when the curtain goes up after the prologue, sea rovers are shown lustily disputing the ownership of La Pisanelle, a courtesan of Pisa, whose strange beauty inflames the hearts of all. She is put up at auction, and the King's uncle, the Prince of Tyre, claims her as his property. While he is extolling her loveliness, Huguet de Lusignan, the melancholy mad young King, rides through the market-place, and to him La Pisanelle, bound as had been foretold on the poop of the corsair's craft, appears as the ragged saint at whose hands the stricken island awaits deliverance. To the Prince of Tyre, however, she appears in a more secular light, and the King, in order to prevent her falling into his hands, slays him and flees from his Court. The King's mother, anxious to free her son from the spells and magic of La Pisanelle, who, it is whispered, may be Venus herself, invites her to a great entertainment at the Court. There, while she dances, slaves surround her with heavy-scented blossoms, and she meets her perfumed death.

The play, which is based mainly upon old Greek legends, is written in French blank verse modelled upon that of Honoré d'Urfé, with alternate lines of ten and six feet. There are some passages of subtle and rhythmic grace, and the subject of the play has enabled d'Annunzio to weave an intricate poetic pattern in which are mingled the romantic mysticism and the robust humor of the age. The play, however, suffers from the very wealth of the legend and the times which inspired it. The opportunity for scenic display is great, and there is some romantic music by Hildebrande da Palma.

"Scandinavian Violin Masters" is the title of a collection of pieces for violin and piano, published by Nikolay Hansen. It includes Grieg's "Ave Maris Stella," a Berceuse by Gode, Sinding's "Bird in the Grove," with pieces by Malling, Halvorsen, and others.

Mascagni was the conductor of the Verdi Centenary Festival given in Florence a few weeks ago. Under his direction the local orchestra and choral association united with soloists in the performance of selections from Verdi's early operas—"I Lombardi," "Ernani," "Nabucco," and "Traviata." Mascagni was received with enthusiasm when he appeared at the desk. That he is not a great conductor any more than he is a great composer did not seem to make much difference on this occasion. He is famous—that was enough. He also made what is said to have been his first public speech.

If Oscar Hammerstein has really engaged the famous Italian tenor, Anselmi, besides Melba, Maurice Renaud, and Leopoldo Mugnone, whom some regard as an even greater conductor than Toscanini, he will have the nucleus for a fine opera company at his new theatre that is now building. It has been said that Toscanini is like Bonci, whose finished art appeals primarily to the musically initiated, while Mugnone is "the Caruso of operatic leaders," whose conducting appeals to the masses.

The latest product of Max Reger's busy pen is a "Roman Song of Triumph," for men's chorus and orchestra. It is his opus 126. It was performed in Berlin a few weeks ago at the Tonkünstlerfest. The text, as the critic of the *Börsen-Courier* remarks, offers opportunity for little besides decorative music, and this tempted Reger to indulge in excessive sonority:

An uninterrupted fortissimo lasting some minutes no longer has the effect of a kind of musical expression, but simply degenerates into noise, all the more because, in this case, there is no characteristic musical invention. An exception may be found in the middle part, where the prisoners of war are referred to; it contains the only bars of music in the whole piece, and here Reger has succeeded in conveying the expression of grief through the use of discords.

When Paderewski's "Manru" was produced in New York, he specially brought over for the title rôle the Polish tenor, Alexander Bandrowski, who died a few weeks ago at Cracow, aged fifty-three. In Poland he was famed as a Wagner singer.

For a single sheet of paper, on which Richard Wagner had written a few words, together with six bars from "Siegfried," the sum of 450 marks was paid at an auction in Berlin the other day. The original manuscript of the eighth scene of the first act of "Tannhäuser" brought 550 marks. At the same auction seven minuets written by Mozart when he was thirteen years old were sold for 2,375 marks, while Weber's first grand sonata for piano was knocked down for 3,100 marks. About $200 (825 marks) was paid for a letter by Gluck in which he wrote to a friend that he had no use for praise by the French, "for they are as changeable as the weathercock."

A novel feature is to be introduced in the public library of Los Angeles—a music room equipped with pianos on which patrons of the general library can try over any of the music on hand to ascertain if they can play it or care to buy it. Later, according to the *Tribune* of that city, phonograph and graphophone records will be provided for making selections before purchasing a set of new records. The room is to be made sound-proof, so that readers in other parts of the library may not be disturbed.

Chopin's complete letters have at last been made accessible in a German translation, by Bernhard Scharlitt, published by Breitkopf & Härtel. The editor calls attention to the fact that some of Chopin's letters were incorrectly reproduced in the German version of Karasowski's biography, and that these errors were copied by Niecks. The present volume includes a number of letters not previously issued in book form; new light is thrown on the relations with George Sand and the causes of their separation. The correspondence begins with the composer's boyhood and continues to shortly before his death, with a break of five years at the time when he first went to Paris. The keynote of the letters is a strong predilection for Poland, although Chopin's father was a Frenchman.

When the veteran Saint-Saëns visited America, a few years ago, it was noted with surprise with what vigor and freshness the septuagenarian played his own piano pieces and others. The same comment was made recently, in London, at the celebration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the day when, as a boy of three, he took his first music lesson. At Covent Garden, in the evening, there was a performance of his opera, "Samson et Dalila," and this was preceded by an afternoon concert at which he played and Beecham conducted his C minor symphony. A feature of this concert was an overture to a comic opera composed when Saint-Saëns was nineteen, and heard on this occasion for the first time.

Art

Byzantine and Romanesque Architecture. By Thomas Graham Jackson, R.A. Cambridge University Press. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press. Two volumes. With 165 plates and 146 illustrations in the text. $12.50 net.

It is a pleasure to review a work to which such sincere and almost unqualified approval can be given as is due to these two handsome volumes. The author, already widely known in the United States by an admirable work on Dalmatia, the Quarnero, and Istria, is not only an accomplished scholar and writer, but also a practicing architect of high reputation. He is the designer of a considerable volume of notable work, which comprises many ecclesiastical and university buildings, besides the recent remarkable achievement of the underpinning and consolidation of the fabric of Winchester Cathedral, which was threatened with ruin by the settling of the old foundations. He is probably the most distinguished representative of that group of English architects who successfully combine practical experience in the profession with the highest culture of the universities and the sound scholarship which these inculcate: a class which has but few representatives in the ranks of the American profession, in which the pressure of our driving and hurried practice leaves so little leisure for study and productive scholarship.

Mr. Jackson treats each of the various phases of early mediæval architecture with equal sympathy and appreciation, and supplements the observation of the student of historical documents with the observation of the trained architect and designer of buildings. His extensive travels have enabled him, in his analysis and discussion of the monuments, to speak in almost every case from personal inspection of and acquaintance with the building. His breadth of view is illustrated by the generous and intelligent appreciation which, unlike many of his fellow-mediævalists in England and America, he bestows upon Roman architecture. He acknowledges the greatness and beauty of its masterpieces, declares it to be the

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real parent of all the mediæval and modern styles, and defends it boldly and convincingly against the aspersions of narrow-minded critics (Vol. I, pp. 7-12).

The survey undertaken in these volumes covers the Roman sources of Christian architecture and the history of the mediæval styles in Europe from the decline of Rome to the beginnings of Gothic architecture. It includes, therefore, an account of the beginnings of Christian architecture, of the early basilican churches, the Syrian and provincial transitions to the domed Byzantine style; an admirable discussion of Byzantine architecture in Constantinople, Venice, Ravenna, and Salonica; chapters on the Lombard and Tuscan Romanesque churches of Italy and the German Romanesque architecture; and a series of chapters, occupying the greater part of the second volume, on Romanesque architecture in France and England; closing with an excellent analytical résumé of Byzantine and Romanesque architecture in general. The historical movements, the causes, antecedents, and accompaniments of each characteristic development are adequately traced. The analytical description of particular buildings includes most of the more notable examples of each style, and of many which, though less familiar than these to the ordinary student, are important or interesting as links in the chain of historic and artistic development. The brevity of the notice accorded to some even of the more important monuments—such, for example, as the cathedral and baptistery at Pisa—and the almost total absence of reference to a number of the important churches of Italy—San Zenone at Verona, for example—though they suggest haste or impatience, are more probably due to deliberate intention; and are in any case compensated for by the fulness and the high quality of the accounts of Hagia Sophia, St. Mark's, the Abbey of Vézelay, and other monuments of really first-rate importance in the historical developments which the author is seeking to trace. The accounts of the Byzantine monuments of Salonica and of a number of the minor churches of Constantinople which the Turks have preserved as mosques, are particularly valuable. Very interesting also is Mr. Jackson's report to the Commissioners of the Evkaf (religious properties) of the Ottoman Empire on the present condition of Hagia Sophia. The Greek and Russian Byzantine churches are not discussed, presumably as lying outside the main current of architectural development selected.

In his treatment of French and English Romanesque architecture, to which 209 pages of the second volume are devoted, Mr. Jackson establishes a most impartial division of the space, assigning 125 pages to the French section, against 84 to the English. Such generous recognition of the real relative importance of the two architectures from the historical and technical point of view, is not common with English writers. In spite of this reserve in the treatment of the English developments, Mr. Jackson's account of both the Saxon and Anglo-Norman styles and monuments leaves little to be desired. One might well have pardoned, not to say desired, a rather more extended notice of the cathedrals of Ely, Peterboro, and Norwich, of Waltham, St. Alban's, and Southwell abbeys (the last now Southwell Cathedral), and of old "St. Bart's" in London; but here, as in other cases already referred to, the author was probably following a set design.

It is noticeable that Mr. Jackson omits all reference to the important investigations and discoveries of Professor Goodyear relative to designed irregularities and optical refinements in mediæval buildings. Even in the case of Pisa Cathedral, he contents himself with remarking very briefly the vitalizing effect of those minor irregularities signalized by Ruskin in his "Seven Lamps of Architecture."

There are a few photographic views, but most of the illustrations are from drawings, chiefly by the author. These, as well as those by his son and by other artists, are without exception well chosen and truly illustrative. There are four reproductions of water-colors by the author, of Byzantine interiors at Salonica, Ravenna, and Parenzo, and of the cloister of Le Puy, which are worthy of especial praise; they are exquisite in color and sufficiently detailed to be instructive without sacrifice of artistic expressiveness.

The books are handsomely made, and the proofs have evidently been read with exceptional care. A somewhat detailed scrutiny has brought to light only two trifling errors of typography, besides the two mentioned in the *errata*. An elaborate chronological table adds materially to the value of the work for reference, and there is a fully detailed index. The two volumes must surely take their place among the standard classics of every architectural library.

The "Reminiscences of Augustus Saint Gaudens" have been edited and amplified by his son, Homer Saint Gaudens; and the work will be issued in the autumn by the Century Co. in two large volumes, with many illustrations showing Saint Gaudens's work, and persons and places associated with his life and career.

Messrs. Dickinson, of London, will publish in the autumn "Samuel Cooper and the Miniature Painters of the Seventeenth Century," by J. J. Foster.

Dr. Ernst Steinmann, who is well known for his studies of the Sistine Chapel and the Medici tombs, is about to publish by subscription a handsome volume on portraits and other pictorial material concerning Michelangelo. Some seventy contemporary portraits will be reproduced from Dominic Anderson's negatives. "Die Portraitdarstellungen des Michelangelo" is open to subscription at Klinkhardt & Biermann's, Leipzig, at £5 sterling, subject to increase after issue.

For those contemplating such a pilgrimage "An English Cathedral" (Crowell), by Kate F. Kimball, will be found a convenient and not overburdened guide.

Finance

THE BANKING BILL AT WASHINGTON.

The two points in the new banking and currency bill which have impressed themselves most definitely on the financial mind are the refusal of the drafters of the bill to provide for a representation of experienced professional bankers on the national supervisory board of the new system, and the inflationist bent of the original currency proposals. It is never easy for financial markets to determine what to do about an inflation argument; because currency inflation automatically drives up prices, even when the longer consequences of such an undertaking are sure to be unfortunate. The Stock Exchange was in doubt what to do, even when the Windom plan of 1890 was proposed—a scheme of currency inflation, with a political connection to it, that had most deplorable results. Other people than the Wall Street constituency have to take the front of the stage, when serious discussion over the possibility of inflation in a currency measure has begun. They will be in evidence when the public hearings begin before the Congressional committees, and practical men of affairs give their judgment on the practical working of the plan.

As for the argument based on undue political centralization, the central board, made up of Cabinet officers and politically-appointed outsiders, undoubtedly creates many serious possibilities. With the powers of that board defined as they were in the bill published a week ago, the experiment would have been most dangerous. The changes made last week, however—especially that which leaves the fixing of the rediscount rate in the hands of the regional banks—to some extent modify this conclusion, and it will be still more modified if a further lopping-off of unreasonable and improper powers as now proposed, is effected by amendment in the House

It is further to be observed that, if the central board is meant in good faith, as its authors profess it to be meant, for a supervisory Federal commission, and if its functions are restricted to

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those appropriate to that office, the predominance of commissioners other than trained bankers need not be disturbing. The president of the Bank of France came from the customs service; the governors of the Bank of England are mostly wholesale merchants. If, indeed, the board were to be filled by fanatical Western legislators or by Eastern political hacks, mischief of the most serious sort might be ahead. But that is at least no visible probability; in fact, the terms of the bill do not actually exclude the appointment even of four bankers to the board. All that it says is that there must at least be one. The really vital question at issue is, not how the Federal board shall be made up, but whether improper powers, and the opportunity for mischievous intermeddling, are conferred upon it.

A few words may be timely as to the original proposals, the changes made last week, why they were made, and why other changes ought to be insisted on. There is a more or less prevalent impression that the purpose at Washington is to insist that the bill be enacted as it stands, and without material amendment. But no one will find, either in President Wilson's address to Congress or in the several explanatory statements given out in connection with the bill, any evidence of such purpose. Even Mr. Bryan, in his published comment of last week, admits that "whatever defects it may have will be brought out by discussion and cured by amendment."

The "regional reserve bank" plan has met with general commendation, and, in the main, correctly so. It has been described as the application of home rule in banking to the great geographical divisions of the country. That this authority would have to be hedged about with proper restriction and supervision under national auspices, no one has ever doubted. But to such supervision there are reasonable limits, and one of them is such interference as would deprive the regional reserve bank of its natural powers and functions, and therefore of its usefulness, as the central institution of its district.

The duty of discounting or rediscounting paper infers the function of fixing the rate at which the capital shall be loaned. If the bill had contemplated a national reserve institution, to rediscount paper for the whole United States—as the Aldrich plan proposed—it would have been the business of that institution to establish the rediscount rate for all parts of the country. That plan the present bill repudiates, and with good enough reason. But, after conferring on the regional central banks the duties and responsibilities of rediscounting commercial paper for the institutions in their several constituencies, it forthwith deprived them of all power of deciding what their discount rate shall be. The Federal board, under the original provisions of the bill, was "to establish each week" a rate "which shall be mandatory upon each Federal reserve bank and for each class of paper."

It was difficult to see, in that separation of powers, anything short of absurdity. When to such a stipulation there was added the provision that the national board is to "have the right to determine or define the character of the paper thus eligible for rediscount," the principle of regional independence is reduced to the merest shadow. It was as if another Home Rule bill were to confer on an Irish Parliament the power of local legislation, and were then to provide that all the bills proposed and passed in that Parliament should originate at Westminster, and should not be changed. The conferrees at Washington were not so blind as to fail to see that by such a provision, the measure would defeat its own purposes.

One can imagine a system under which, should the general interests of all the districts so require, the national board might recommend to a regional bank a change in its official rate. It is conceivable that, under certain circumstances and with due formalities and reservations, such a change might be required—though the wisdom even of that would be debatable. But to have one body of directors lend the money, and another, a thousand miles away, fix the lending rate, is a strange proposal. Such a plan would in effect mean either a central bank masquerading as a supervisory commission for regional reserve banks, or else would mean a system of regional reserve banks with their natural powers usurped at Washington. The proper and just distribution of powers, as between the "regional reserve banks" and the national supervisory board, is yet to be effected. It is not completed, even when the drafters of the bill have now placed the fixing of the bank rate with the district institutions, subject to review by the central board. It is absolutely essential to determine what the scope of that "review" shall be.

When the other provision of the original bill is considered—in connection with the $500,000,000 authorized Treasury notes, secured by banking assets and superimposed, so far as they are actually taken out, on all the other currency now in circulation—that the national board is to fix in its discretion the tax upon such notes, any one in the least conversant with the history of finance must know that an enormous and excessively hazardous authority would be conferred.

The proposed new note-issue offered no solution of the problem of an elastic currency. It would merely have expanded the total circulating medium beyond the highest total ever reached before, with the prospect of return to the present volume if the Federal board saw fit to impose a sufficiently high tax. In no case was actual automatic contraction of the currency provided for. If the board were not to have recourse to such powers, or if it were not to use them prudently, it would at least have to be admitted that the machinery of currency inflation was in working order.

The plan as revised last week extends the scope of the note-issue machinery, so that 5 per cent. of the existing bank-note circulation shall be extinguished every year, and shall be replaced by the new "Treasury notes." But the mischievous power of a discretionary tax by the Federal board remains, and the whole note-issue plan is surrounded by such obscurity and uncertainty that the root-and-branch revision of the clauses referring to it is imperative.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

Archiv für Kunstgeschichte. Herausgegeben von Detlev Freiherrn von Hadeln, Hermann Voss, und Morton Bernath. Leipzig: Verlag E. A. Seemann.

Baerlein, Henry. Mexico the Land of Unrest. Phila.: Lippincott.

Barker, Ernest. The Dominican Order and Convocation. Oxford Press.

Blackwood, A. A Prisoner in Fairyland. Macmillan. $1.35 net.

Boyle, James. The Minimum Wage and Syndicalism. Cincinnati: Stewart & Kidd. $1 net.

Britton, N. L., and Brown, A. Illustrated Flora of the Northern States and Canada. Second edition, revised. 3 vols. Scribner.

Brown, P. Hume. The Youth of Goethe. Dutton. $2.50 net.

Bullen, F. T. From Wheel and Lookout. Phila.: Lippincott. $1.25 net.

Burt, A. L. Imperial Architects. Oxford. B. H. Blackwell.

Canadian Financial Review, Annual. May, 1913. Montreal: Richardson & Co.

Cather, W. S. O Pioneers! Boston: Houghton Mifflin. $1.25 net.

Constant, D. de. Les États-Unis d'Amérique. Paris: Colin.

Corneille, Théâtre de. Paris: Bibliothéque Hachette.

Cornford, L. C. William Ernest Henley. Boston: Houghton Mifflin. 75 cents.

Dale, William. Tschudi, the Harpischord Maker. Dutton. $2.50 net.

Durran, William. The Lawyer, Our Old Man of the Sea. Dutton. $2.75 net.

Evarts, R. C. Alice's Adventure in Cambridge. Cambridge, Mass. Harvard Lampoon.

Everyday Phrases Explained. Phila.: Lippincott. 50 cents net.

Fitch, G. H. The Critic in the Orient. San Francisco: Elder & Co. $2.

Gallup's Latin Reader. American Book Co. 50 cents.

Gladden, Washington. Present-Day Theology. Columbus, O.: McClelland & Co.

Harvard College Observatory Annals. Vols. 72-6, 7; 74; 75—1, 2.

Hauptmann, Gerhart. Dramatic Works, Vol. II, Social Dramas. Edited by L. Lewisohn. Huebsch. $1.50 net.

Hilton, H. H. Modern Golf. Outing Pub. Co. 70 cents.

Hornibrook, Isabel. A Scout of To-day. Boston: Houghton Mifflin. $1 net.

International Studies. Special No.—Old Houses in Holland. Lane. $3 net.

Jebb, Richard. The Britannic Question. Longmans. 35 cents net.

Kelly, E. M. Toya the Unlike. Boston: Small, Maynard. $1 net.

Knox, M. V. B. The Religious Life of the Anglo-Saxon Race. Boston: Sherman, French. $2 net.

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Millet P. Jenny s'en va-t-en guerre. Paris: Grasset.
Reinach, Salomon. Répertoire de l'art Quarternaire. Paris: Leroux.
Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology—1906-07. Washington: Gov. Ptg. Office.
Report of the Com'r of Corporations on the Steel Industry. Part III. Washington: Gov. Ptg. Office.
Roach, W. W. Revitalizing Devitalized Children. Reprint from Am. Journal of Public Health.
Roe, O., and Urse, H. By the Brown Bog. Longmans. $1.35 net.
Root, Elihu. Experiments in Government and the Essentials of the Constitution (Stafford Little Lectures). Princeton Univ. Press. $1.
Sanders, H. F. The White Quiver. Duffield.
Sandison, H. E. The Chanson d'Adventure in Middle English. Bryn Mawr College Monographs.
Shaw. The Wisdom of Bernard Shaw. Passages chosen by C. F. Shaw. Brentano. $1 net.
Small, A. W. Between Eras from Capitalism to Democracy. Kansas City, Mo.: Inter-Collegiate Press.
Smith, Goldwin. Correspondence—1846 and 1910. Collected by Arnold Haultain. Duffield.
Stanard, M. N. John Marshall: An Address. Richmond, Va.: W. E. Jones' Sons.
Sullivan, T. R. The Hand of Petrarch, and Other Stories. Boston: Houghton Mifflin. $1.30 net.
Todd, A. J. The Primitive Family as an Educational Agency. Putnam. $1.75 net.
Trevelyan, G. M. Life of John Bright. Boston. Houghton Mifflin. $4.50 net.
Verworn, Max. Irritability. Frowde. $3.50 net.
Walton, G. L. Calm Yourself. Boston: Houghton Mifflin. 50 cents net.
Watkins, D. E. Public Speaking for High Schools. American Book Co. 75 cents.
White, Lazarus. The Catskill Water Supply of New York City. John Wiley & Sons. $6 net.
Wicks, P. The Truth about Home Rule. Boston: Small, Maynard. $1.25 net.
Wile, F. W. Men Around the Kaiser. Philadelphia: Lippincott.
Wilson, J. F. Tad Sheldon, Boy Scout. Sturgis & Walton. $1 net.
Wilson, J. F. The Princess of Sorry Valley. Sturgis & Walton. $1.25 net.
Wilson, T. P. C. The Friendly Enemy. Putnam. $1.25 net.
Wordsworth's Poems. (Oxford Library.) Frowde.

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